Gloria orders cops: Smash drug syndicates

STORY ON PAGE A2

PDI founder among 26 ad 'mavericks'

APOSTOL

EUGENIA D. Apostol, founding chair of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, was recognized as one of the mavericks in the advertising industry for her role in the press sector.

Apostol was one of 26

PDI/ A16

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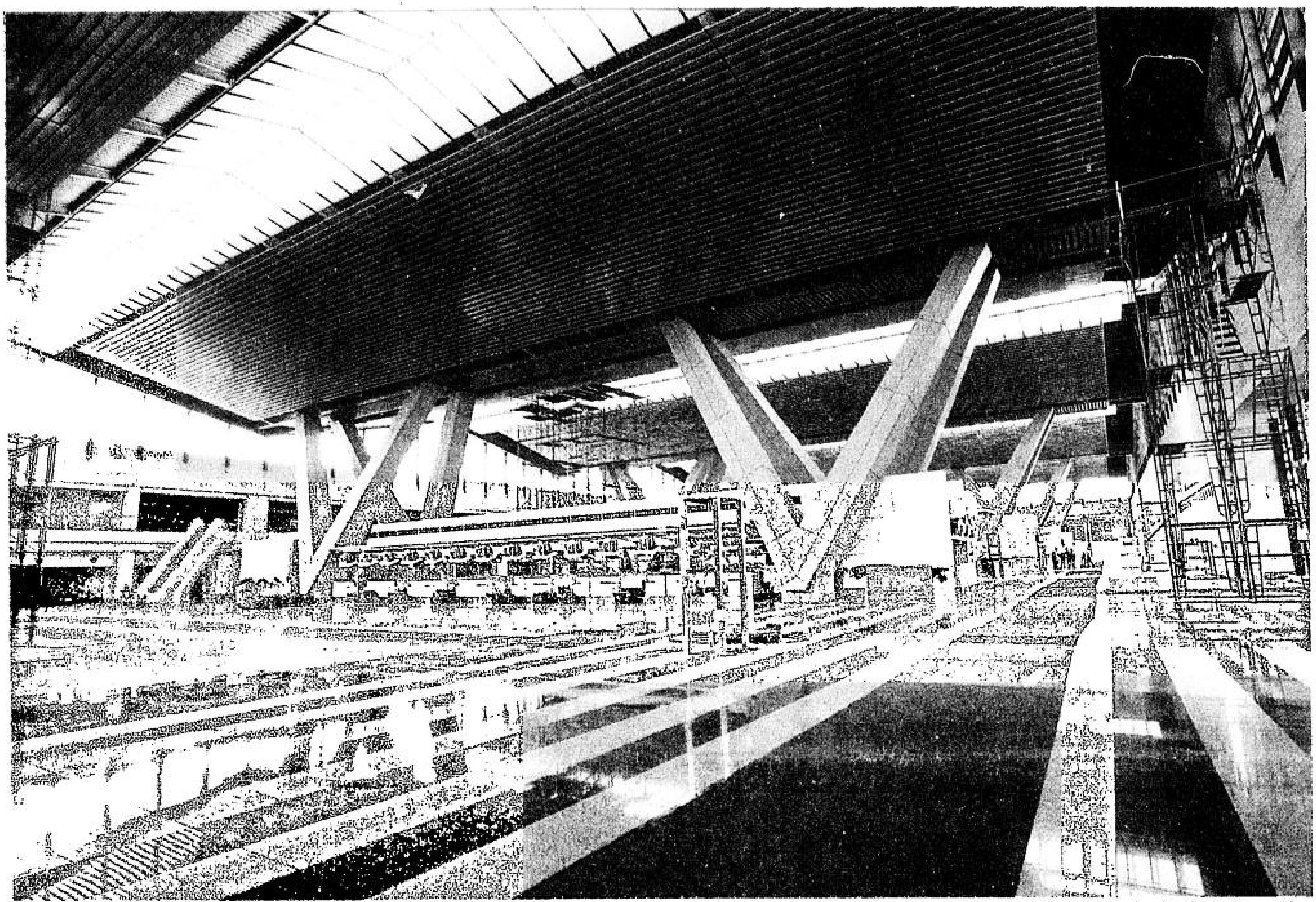
September 1, 2002 ★★ 82 pages 7 sections vol.17 no. 265 P15

OOPS. President Macapagal takes a break of sorts in Camp Crame before presenting suspected members of a notorious KFR gang from Cavite.

JESS YUSON

Malaysia stops deportation



THE COLORS of the Philippine flag break through the cool gray interiors of the four-story Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 with yellow predominating because of its significance to the man after whom the airport is named. Shown here is the departure area with 140 check-in counters.

ROMY HOMILLADA

Mahathir orders break after GMA's phone call

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan, TJ Burgonio and Volt Contreras

FOLLOWING a telephone conversation with President Macapagal-Arroyo, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday that he has agreed to a temporary halt in the deportation of Filipino illegal immigrants.

Mahathir said the decision was reached after he spoke on the telephone late Friday with President Macapagal who expressed concern over the plight of Filipinos being detained in Malaysia's Sabah state on Borneo island.

"She asked me whether we can take a short break in sending their people home. I agreed," Mahathir was quoted as saying by the national news agency, Bernama.

Earlier yesterday, Ms Macapagal had said on radio that she "came to an understanding" with Mahathir over how to ease the situation. An official Philippine mission would travel to Kuala Lumpur on Monday to "thresh out the details," she said.

Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman identified the members of the mission as presidential adviser Nur Jaafar, Labor Undersecretary Lucy Lazo, Social Welfare Region IX director Parisia Taradji, a Colonel Gaudini of the Department of National Defense, and a Doctor Sana of the Department of Health.

Mahathir, speaking Saturday on the outskirts of Kuala

MALAYSIA/ A14

GMA: Piatco's Naia Terminal 3 contract onerous

By Dona Pazzibugan, Juliet Javellana and Abigail Ho

IT IS A WORLD-CLASS airport with a Filipino twist. A classic example of an internationally competitive structure that blends state-of-the-art services and equipment with traditional Filipino culture.

This is the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.

(For a descriptive tour of the airport, see the INQUIRER tomorrow.)

But even as it is now 97 percent complete, Naia 3 is encountering heavy turbulence.

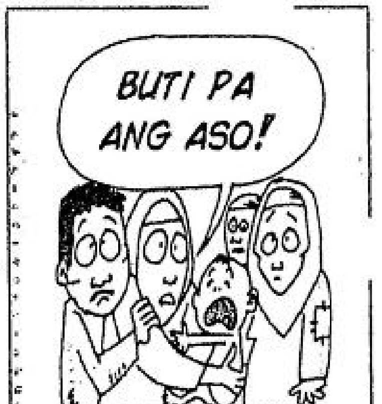
"Onerous," President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday called the contract to build, manage and operate Naia 3 for 25 years awarded to the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. (Piatco).

This is why the government wants to take over the build-operate-transfer project. But President Macapagal assured investors that her government honors contracts but stressed that it would exercise its right to renegotiate contracts "onerous or disadvantageous to the people."

"This is the basic premise by which the government is now reviewing the agreement with Piatco which has Fraport AG of Germany as its single biggest foreign investor (having) provided 80 percent of the funds for the construction of the terminal," said Ms Macapagal.

She issued the statement after meeting with presidential adviser for strategic projects Secretary Gloria Tan Climaco, presidential legal counsel Avelino Cruz and Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo.

GMA/ A16



BUTI PA ANG ASO!

Stranded dog flies 1st class to new owners

HONOLULU—After more than four months of international attention, a dog that was rescued after 24 days of being stranded aboard a burned up ship flew first-class to Honolulu last Friday to begin what its new owner hopes will be a quiet life.

Hokget, a 2-year-old mixed terrier, sported a paper flower lei as she was handed over to Michael and Helen Kuo after a flight from Kauai, where she spent four

STRANDED/ A16

Cardinal Sin, at 74, moves closer to retirement

By Armand N. Nocum

MANILA Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, a major player of the Philippines' two people power revolts, is now a year shy of mandatory retirement though there is no such thing in the Catholic hierarchy.

Sin marked his 74th birthday yesterday with a private lunch attended by relatives and friends and a Mass in the afternoon. But there was no official statement on his successor, although Agence France Presse quoted him as saying Friday night that at his age, he "should retire already."

He made the remark during a birthday-eve gathering at the Villa San Miguel, his residence in Mandaluyong City, where close to 3,000 priests, nuns, seminarians and parishioners converged.

Sin was treated to a serenade by a 35-member choir singing such songs as the Ilonggo classic "Dandansoy," Diana Ross' "If We Hold on Together" and Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings."

Among the cardinal's well-wishers that night were Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, Deputy Director General Edgardo Aglipay of the Philippine National Police, El Shaddai leader Mike Velarde, and Dodie Limcaoco, President Macapagal-Arroyo's adviser on media and ecclesiastical affairs.

"We need more honesty in government," Sin was heard telling Camacho.

CARDINAL/ A16

Inspiring humanitarian efforts produce heroes down south

By Volt Contreras and Joan Orendain,
Contributor

AMID tales of caning, death, starvation and other horrors brought home by Filipino deportees from Sabah, Malaysia, an inspiring tapestry of humanitarian efforts is unfolding as the country deals with its biggest immigration crisis since the Gulf War.

It is left up to a grateful nation to acknowledge acts of humanity performed by private individuals as well as the heroic men and women of the Navy, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Health, and the Commission on Human Rights.

Not to forget Tawi-Tawi officials like Rep. Soraya Jaafar, Bongao Mayor Albert Que and Mapun Mayor Nickerson Tan. They did not turn away from the despair they saw in the refugees' eyes. They healed, they fed, they ministered to the traumatized, they offered hope and good cheers where there was none.

Crates of cabbage and *sayote*, courtesy of ordinary farmers in Baguio City, are on their way to the Tawi-Tawi capital of Bongao, site of the processing centers for the deportees.

A boy identified only as Mark Lance Due personally handed P300 in P20 bills to a Palace security aide, during one of President Macapagal-Arroyo's outdoor engagements on Aug. 28. A card that came with the money said it was his "humble way" of helping relief efforts.

These are among the moving, consoling gestures made by private individuals or groups in response to reports and images of inhumane treatment suffered by the Sabah deportees, Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman said yesterday.

The Mindanao State University, for example, contributed fresh fish, vegetables and seaweeds to augment the government's standard food relief package consisting of rice, instant noodles, corned beef and sardines.

The Fil-Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Bongao provided

INSPIRING/ A14

CHEERS for the lady in the background, DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman, working hard to meet the needs of waves of deportees.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will have cloudy sies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of Luzon will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with rainshowers and thunderstorms. SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: ARMIN ADINA, PDI RESEARCH/09/01/02

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Smash drug rings, GMA tells cops

By TJ Burgonio

WITH the police gaining headway in the drive against kidnap-for-ransom gangs, President Macapagal-Arroyo has shifted the focus of her anti-crime campaign to hunting down international and domestic traffickers of illicit drugs.

Yesterday, the President ordered the newly formed Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) to go after 11 transnational and 215 local drug syndicates operating in the country.

The syndicates were listed in an "order of battle" of the PDEA on the final day of a drug enforcement workshop at the Philippine National Police headquarters, which the President attended wearing police camouflage trousers.

Her directive to the PDEA echoed the orders she gave last month to the Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer), the police anti-crime body, in addressing the kidnapping problem—identify the crime groups and bust them.

The Pacer has so far cracked four of 21 known kidnap-for- ransom groups.

"As I had instructed the PNP when it first launched the anti-kidnapping drive, 'focus on the criminals, not on the crime'. That doctrine was effective. If there's a specific unit to run after, gather evidence and mount a manhunt. The same should happen (at the PDEA)," she said.

She said that the drug syndicates would be "targeted and dismantled" in the same way that police have pursued kidnappers.

The President clarified, however, that the creation of a new anti-drug agency does not mean that other law enforcement agencies, like the National Bureau of Investigation, would withdraw from the anti-illegal drug campaign.

"This should not be made a reason for all the law enforcement agencies to stop their job. The PNP, the military and the NBI will be deputized by the PDEA, so the fight against the syndicates continues," she said.

She said these agencies should share intelligence information, and coordinate and report the results of their operations to the PDEA as soon as possible.

Police say many crimes have been sparked by drugs, the most abused of which is shabu, or methamphetamine hydrochloride—the "poor man's cocaine."

Police say much of the shabu sold in the Philippines comes from China, smuggled through the country's poorly guarded coastline. They arrested 57 foreigners, mostly Chinese, in drug busts last year and seized more than 1,000 kgs of shabu worth about P2 billion.

Aside from identifying 11 international and 215 local drug syndicates operating in the country, the workshop revealed that there were five havens of drug suppliers in Metro Manila.

PDEA undersecretary Anselmo Avenido, however, declined to identify the international drug traffickers.

The international drug syndicates were identified only by their code names, such as Targets 163, 420, 503, 350, 044, 600, 4x4, Superlab, 057, 100 and 90.

"Most of them are Chinese. Some of these syndicates use the country as a trans-shipment point of illegal drugs bound for Japan and other countries," Avenido told reporters.

Most of the domestic drug syndicates operate in Metro Manila, and in the Central Luzon, Central Visayas, Western Mindanao, Southern Tagalog and Ilocos regions.

The country has 1.8 million regular drug users, 1.6 million occasional users, and 15,204 drug pushers.

As of June 2002, some 42,061 barangays were affected by the drug problem, the PDEA said.

Avenido said a special enforcement team would be formed to concentrate on each of the identified syndicates. ***With a report from AP***

'In her inner, innermost self,' GMA against death penalty, says Palace aide

By Armand N. Nocum

IN her heart of hearts, President Macapagal-Arroyo is not really for putting convicted criminals to death, according to her adviser on media and ecclesiastical affairs.

"I believe that in her heart, she is against the death penalty but she has to uphold the law," said Conrado Limcaoco.

Limcaoco said "objective condition" like the worsening kidnapping situation made the President think about "exemplary justice" and consider allowing the Death Penalty Law to take its course just before her State of the Nation Address in July.

Ms Macapagal announced during the Sona that she would send those convicted of kidnapping to the death chamber, reversing her long-held stance against capital punishment.

Limcaoco said that because of the President's real sentiments against the death penalty, she had no problem with the recent pastoral letter of Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin in which the influential prelate again attacked the Death Penalty Law and the resumption of state execution of criminals.

"In her inner, innermost self, I think she's in agreement (with Sin), except she's looking at allowing the executions as exemplary justice, to show that something is being done," said Limcaoco.

He said the President's grant of a 90-day reprieve to six Death Row convicts showed her real views on the issue.

After the reprieve, it is possible the President would order a stay of execution for a longer period, especially if kidnappings stop, said Limcaoco.

"The conditions that made her say I will allow executions may not be the same now because there have been triumphs in the fight against kidnapping," he said.

By then, he said, the President hopes that the bills seeking to repeal the Death Penalty Law would have passed Congress.

He said the President was also listening to those opposing the law because she is a "listening President".

In Tacloban City, Sen. Francisco Pangilinan said the Senate committee report on the bill to abolish the Death Penalty Law would be finalized by next week so that the chamber could go into deliberations when it reconvenes after its September recess.

The Senate bill seeks to set aside the Death Penalty Law and revert a convict's sentence to life imprisonment without the benefit of parole.

If passed, the law will be retroactive, that is, convicts who have been sentenced to die will benefit from the new law.

Pangilinan, chair of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, is the principal author of the bill which has been signed by 15 senators.

At the House, at least 100 congressmen have expressed support for a resolution urging the President to stay all executions until Congress repeals the Death Penalty law.

In Dagupan City, Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, immediate past president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, called for the abolition of capital punishment, saying it made the country look like it was still living in the Old Testament "which promoted vengeance and not justice."

"Genuine justice cannot be flagrantly unjust at the same time," he said. ***With reports from Vicente S. Labro, PDI Visayas Bureau, and Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Gloria stages 'photo-ops' for victim, cops

By TJ Burgonio

FOR a change, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday presented to the media the arresting officer, the kidnap victim and his parents in another "photo-ops" announcement of a kidnap case solved.

Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao, a Cavite policeman who helped arrest six alleged members of a kidnap gang that abducted a computer science student in Bacoor last Sunday, was also presented because of suggestions that she should "highlight the arresting officers, and not those arrested," Ms Macapagal said.

The suspects—Dennis Tresvalles, 25, the alleged leader; his brother Noel, 24; Conrado Jocson, 39; Gonzalo Quario, 21; Dominador Layacan, 21; and Allan Garcia, 27—were members of the Tres Valles robbery gang which had been involved in robberies in Southern Tagalog, particularly in Cavite and Laguna, before it turned to kidnapping, according to national police chief Gen. Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

They were arrested after a series of raids on their homes in Las Piñas City and Laguna on Thursday by a team from the Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer) and the Cavite police.

Their victim, Jan Arad Fernandez, 24, was released on Tuesday after his family paid an undetermined amount of ransom.

"The solution rate of kidnapping cases is getting better and better," Ms Macapagal said.

According to the police, the gang was responsible for a pawnshop robbery in Dasmariñas, Cavite; several bus robbery-holdups in Cavite; San Pedro and Binan, Laguna; and the robbery of a gasoline station in Bacoor last July 26.

Gov't biggest abuser of OFWs—Angara

By Cynthia D. Balana

FILIPINOS seeking jobs abroad are exploited even before they leave the country, and government is the biggest perpetrator of the abuse.

Sen. Edgardo Angara yesterday said government had done this by not implementing the Migrant Workers Act, which deregulates overseas employment.

The law, enacted by Congress in 1995, provided for a five-year deregulation program one year after its passage. The five-year period is about to lapse.

Angara said he would initiate a Senate probe into government's failure to comply with the mandate which, he pointed out, was a violation of the law.

He said the Senate would also look into rules currently being imposed by government agencies on Overseas Filipino Workers.

Among these agencies are the Department of Labor, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Overseas Employment Authority and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

"Why are these rules still in effect?" Angara demanded. "Is it because there is money in regulatory measures?"

On Wednesday, Angara met with representatives of the Philippine Overseas Entertainment Industry Foundation, which had complained about TESDA's "harsh" policies.

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EAST ASIA POWER

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

FOR : The Stockholders of EAST ASIA POWER RESOURCES CORPORATION
FROM : The Secretary
SUBJECT : 2002 Annual Stockholders' Meeting on September 12, 2002

Please be informed that the annual stockholders' meeting of **EAST ASIA POWER RESOURCES CORPORATION** (the "Corporation") is moved from September 4, 2002 to **Thursday, September 12, 2002, at 9:00 a.m.** at the **EDSA Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila.**

Only common stock shareholders as of August 12, 2002, shall be entitled to notice and to vote at the said meeting.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Proof of Notice and Quorum
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2001 Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on 18 July 2001
4. Annual Report of the President
5. Ratification of all Acts and Proceedings of the Board of Directors and Corporate Officers
6. Election of Members of the Board of Directors
7. Appointment of External Auditors
8. Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Resolution to Reduce the Number of Directors from Nine (9) to Seven (7), and Amending the Articles of Incorporation for such purpose
9. Other Matters
10. Adjournment

The Minutes of the last Annual Stockholders' Meeting and resolutions of the Board of Directors will be available for inspection during office hours at the Office of the Corporate Secretary. In addition, copies of the minutes will also be made available together with this Notice.

JOSE A. FERIA, Jr.
Corporate Secretary

4,761 take bar exams starting today

By Michael Ubac

GRADUATES of 75 law schools across the country will take the 2002 bar examinations which start today at the De La Salle University in Manila.

The exams are administered on four consecutive Sundays.

The Supreme Court, which conducts the annual exams, has noted an increase in the number of bar applicants from 3,849 last year to 4,761 this year.

Bar Confidant Ma. Cristina Layusa and the Committee on Bar Examinations headed by Associate Justice Vicente V. Mendoza have offered no explanation for the upsurge.

But legal observers said last year's landmark result might have encouraged graduates to take their chances this year. Last year's 32.89 percent passing rate (1,266 of the total examinees) was the highest in 20 years.

The highest before that, 43 percent, was recorded in 1981; and the lowest, 16.59 percent, in 2000.

For the third straight year since 1999, the University of the Philippines College of Law has topped the bar exams.

Layusa reminded applicants that mobile phones and other electronic devices were prohibited inside the school.

"All examinees and bar watchers are required to deposit their cell phones at the gate, where they can be retrieved after the exams," she said.

To pass, a bar applicant must obtain a general average of 75 percent, without failing below 50 percent in any subject.

Layusa said some 1,000 personnel from the high court, police and other concerned government agencies would be deployed at DLSU to ensure the "successful" conduct of the exams.

Bill seeks to protect poor studes

By C.D. Balana

SCHOOLS should not bar students from taking examinations because of failure to pay their financial obligations on time, according to Sen. Manny Villar.

Villar has filed Senate Bill 2302 which seeks to declare as illegal the practice of some private and even public schools to deny students of examination permits due to unsettled fees.

"With rising tuition and school fees, it is becoming harder for parents to meet payment schedules for the education of their children," Villar said.

The bill, however, also seeks to strike a reasonable compromise between the competing needs of students and the school administration.

To protect the interest of schools, Villar said that they were entitled to withhold the release of the students' grades until their financial obligations are settled.

The bill does not also compel schools to issue clearances to students with unpaid obligations.

"What we want is to give leeway to our students and their families who are heavily burdened due to the unhealthy state of the economy," the senator said.

Violators face suspension or cancellation of their permits and fines ranging from P20,000 to P50,000.

The education department would be tasked with promulgating the implementing guidelines necessary to enforce the objectives of the proposed law.

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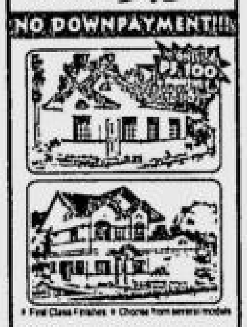

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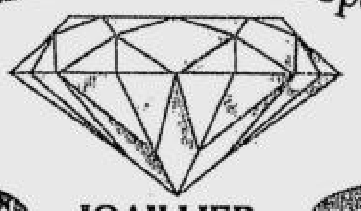

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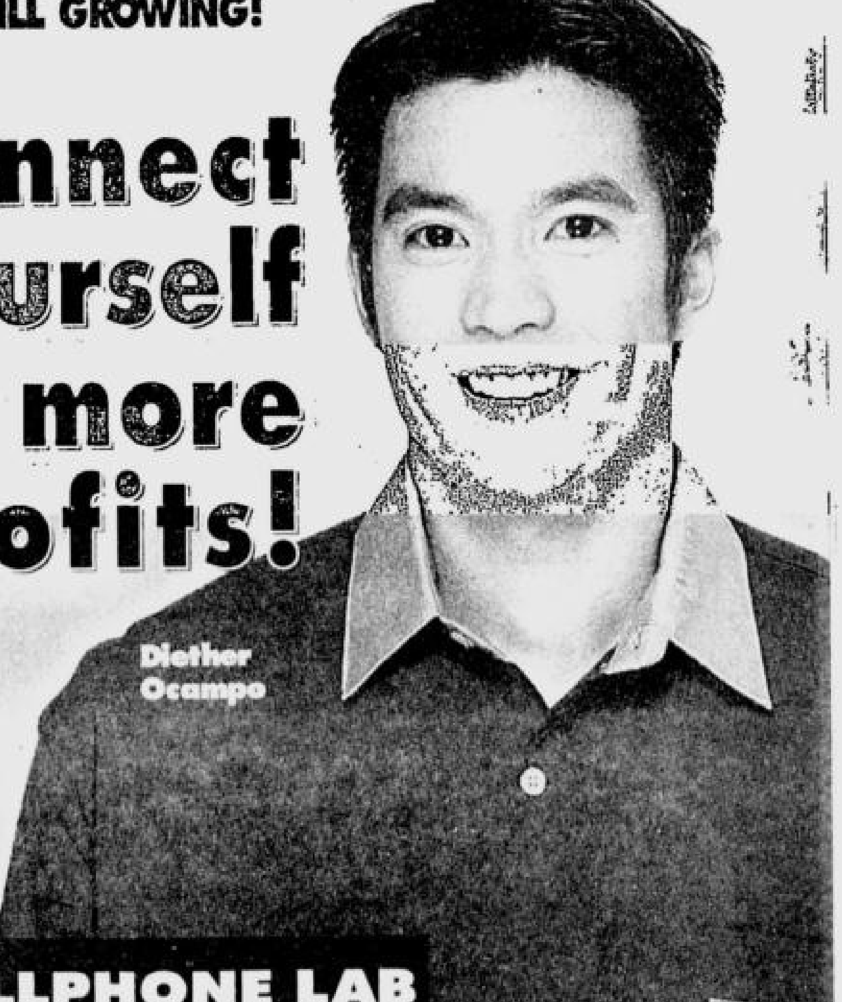

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Solons asks: What are US planes doing in Batanes?

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The defense and foreign affairs departments have remained deaf to questions regarding the unscheduled landings and refueling stops of United States military aircraft at the Basco airport in Batanes, Rep. Florencio Abad said yesterday.

Abad said there has been no response to either the House resolution he earlier filed addressing the query to the two departments nor the verbal inquiries he had made with Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes.

The Batanes congressman would like to know what arrangements cover the activities of the US military aircraft at Basco.

Airport damaged

He also wants to know if the Batanes provincial government would be compensated for any damage done to the Basco airport that was not designed to accommodate huge helicopters and C-130 cargo planes.

He said these issues have cropped up after US aircraft began using the Basco airport again recently.

Ten years ago, US troops pulled out of the long-range navigational station that they operated in Batanes in the 1960s.

But recently, Abad said US helicopters have been making irregular visits and US airplanes sometimes land even at night to refuel.

"The most important thing that we want to know is if these refueling stops are allowed by our government and if they are, under what kind of arrangement? Is this under the Visiting Forces Agreement or the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) or whatever?" said Abad.

After the Senate rejected the extension of the 1947 Philippine-US Military Bases Agreement on Sept. 16, 1991, the presence and operations of foreign military bases and troops have been banned here.

The MDT, meanwhile, is a 51-year-old bilateral defense cooperation pact which remains in force. It was under the MDT that the VFA was ratified by the Senate in 1999 to govern the activities of visiting US troops.

No coordination

Abad said that while it is known that the US aircraft transiting Batanes originate from Okinawa, Japan, nothing is known of their destinations.

The flights and landings were not coordinated with the provincial government, either.

"Each time they come everyone is surprised. It would not be so bad if they come in the afternoon or during the day but sometimes they come at night and they are a nuisance," Abad said.

The main concern, however, is the damage to the Basco airport, which is designed only for small passenger planes and paved with asphalt so that when larger aircrafts land, it suffers from scouring.

Abad said the provincial government, which maintains the airport, should at least be compensated for the use of the runway.

No compensation

In Zambales, two farmers whose farms were damaged by the emergency landing of four US CH-53 military helicopters on Aug. 2 continue to appeal for compensation from the government.

Eduardo Merced and Corazon Menorca of Barangay Lucapon South, Sta. Cruz, Zambales, have taken their case to the House committee on human rights.

ABAD: Who will pay for damage to Basco airport?

DPWH chief denies clearing 2 top execs

By A. Nocum

PUBLIC Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong yesterday denied clearing two undersecretaries of culpability in the P139-million car repair scam.

Reacting to an INQUIRER column stating that he had cleared Edmundo Mir and Mabini Pablo, Datumanong said the two were still deemed answerable to charges of failing to do their jobs in preventing the scam.

In a press statement, Datumanong said the two officials had been suspended for "command responsibility and neglect of duty."

"These officials should have exercised their authority to ensure that the office, as well as the official activities under their delegated authorities, were properly monitored and supervised," Datumanong said.

Pablo is undersecretary for administration, while Mir is tasked with overseeing matters on design, maintenance, construction and equipment.

The vehicle repair scam involves at least 40 officials and personnel under the Department of Public Works and Highways' Bureau of Equipment. Datumanong said these men were directly under Mir and Pablo.

"If I delegate authority to any subordinate," Datumanong said, "I expect that official to closely supervise and oversee all activities (thus) assigned."

Datumanong took exception to Al Mendoza's "Full Tank" column last August 29.

Citing "stenographic notes" during the Senate hearing on the matter, Mendoza said Datumanong had "cleared" Mir of involvement in the scam.

Datumanong admitted saying that the two did not sign documents relative to the scam, but stressed they were not above culpability for neglect of duty.

As this developed, the DPWH Employees Union asked Datumanong to investigate the official leading the repair scam probe, saying she, too, had been charged for an irregularity.

In a resolution passed this week, the union said Irene D. Ofilada, former head of the DPWH Internal Audit Service, had been charged before the Office of the Ombudsman for dishonesty and misconduct.

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Sept. 3-4	Printing Press Business (*with field trip*)
Sept. 4-5	Wood Framing
Sept 5-6	Design and Operation of a Water Refilling Station Business
Sept. 5-6	Entrepreneurial Marketing
Sept. 5-6	Therapeutic Massage (*Swedish Style*)
Sept. 6	Perfumes and Colognes
Sept. 7-8	Laundry Soap and Detergents (*In cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
Sept. 7-8	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making (*In cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
Sept. 7-8	Jewelry Appraisal and Pawnshop Operation
Sept. 7-9	Fresh Flower Arrangement and Flower Shop Operation and Management (*with field trip*)
Sept. 9	Setting up a Travel Agency
Sept. 9-10	How to Start and Manage Janitorial Services
Sept. 10-13	Silkscreen Printing
Sept. 11-12	Catering Business Operation
Sept. 12-13	Hair Trimming, Perming, Dyeing and Make-up Techniques
Sept. 12-13	Advanced and Latest Trends in Floral Design (Flower Arrangement)
Sept. 14-15	Reflexology
Sept. 14-15	Organizing Party Funfare as a Business (with Balloon Decors)
Sept. 14-15	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making (*In cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
Sept. 14-15	Accounting and Record Keeping for Small Businesses
Sept. 14-15	Dollar Trading/Foreign Currency Exchange
Sept. 14-16	Operating a Laundry Shop Business (Small-Scale) (*with field trip*)

Agri/Aqua Courses

Sept. 3-5	Mango Production (with Improved Flower Induction) and Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Technology (*with field trip*)
Sept. 4-6	Broiler Production (Meat Type Chicken) (*with field trip*)
Sept. 7-9	Tilapia Culture (*with field trip*)
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Honeybee Culture, previously slated on Sept. 6-7, has been postponed for a later date.

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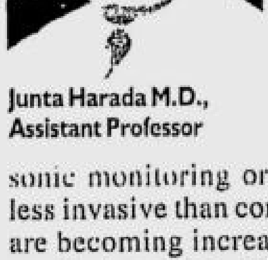
The challenge of MR-guided treatment (I-MR) made possible by Open MRI

FROM IVR TO I-MR

The ideas and technologies required to make the concept real



Junta Harada M.D.,
Assistant Professor

The term IVR, which is the abbreviation for "interventional radiology", refers to the use of diagnostic imaging techniques for interventional procedures, such as histological diagnosis or therapy. Specifically, the procedures include insertion of needles or catheters for biopsy, drainage, and occlusion or dilation of vessels. These are often guided by X-ray TV, angiography, ultrasonic monitoring or X-ray CT. These procedures are less invasive than conventional surgical approaches and are becoming increasingly important in contemporary medical practice. However, X-ray guided IVR has always been associated with a high radiation dose and this has made MRI-guided intervention attractive as the technological development of MRI has proceeded. Advantages of MRI in intervention include: absence of ionising radiation; high tissue and spatial resolution; availability of tomographic images in any desired orientation; availability of information on blood flow; and no requirements for contrast medium.

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Recently, Dr. Harada profounds a term at every academic meeting and lecture he attends. The term, "iMRI", is a concept which contains "interventional MRI", "intraoperative MRI" and "intraprocedural MRI". It refers to the attitude of mind required to seek extensive applications of MRI including diagnosis, therapy and surgical aid with Open MR Systems.

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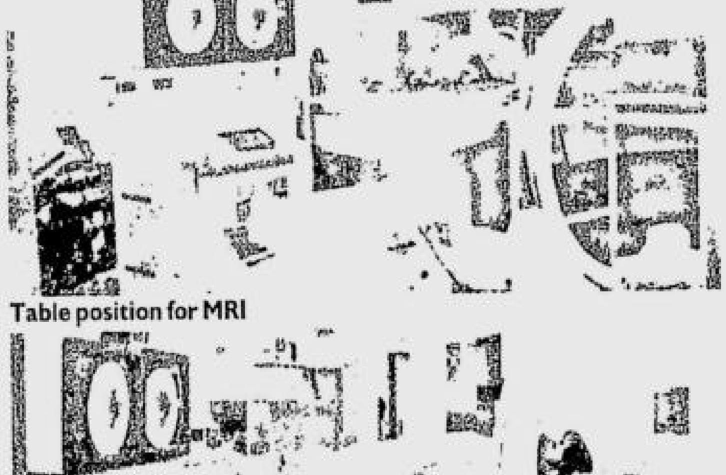

Table position for MRI

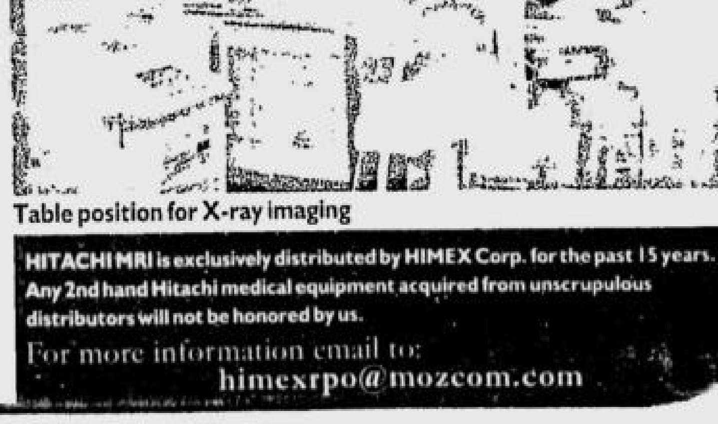

Table position for X-ray imaging

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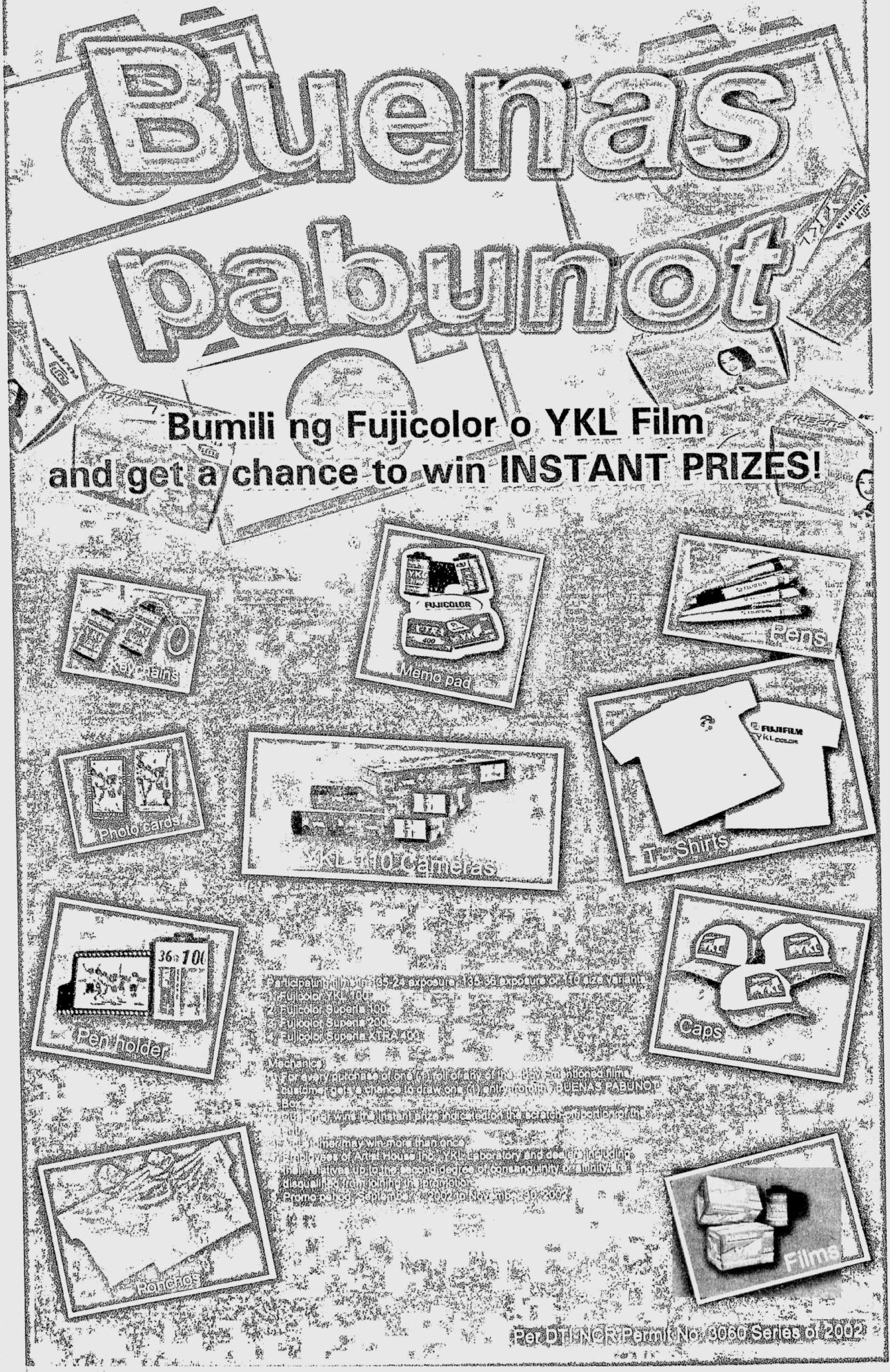
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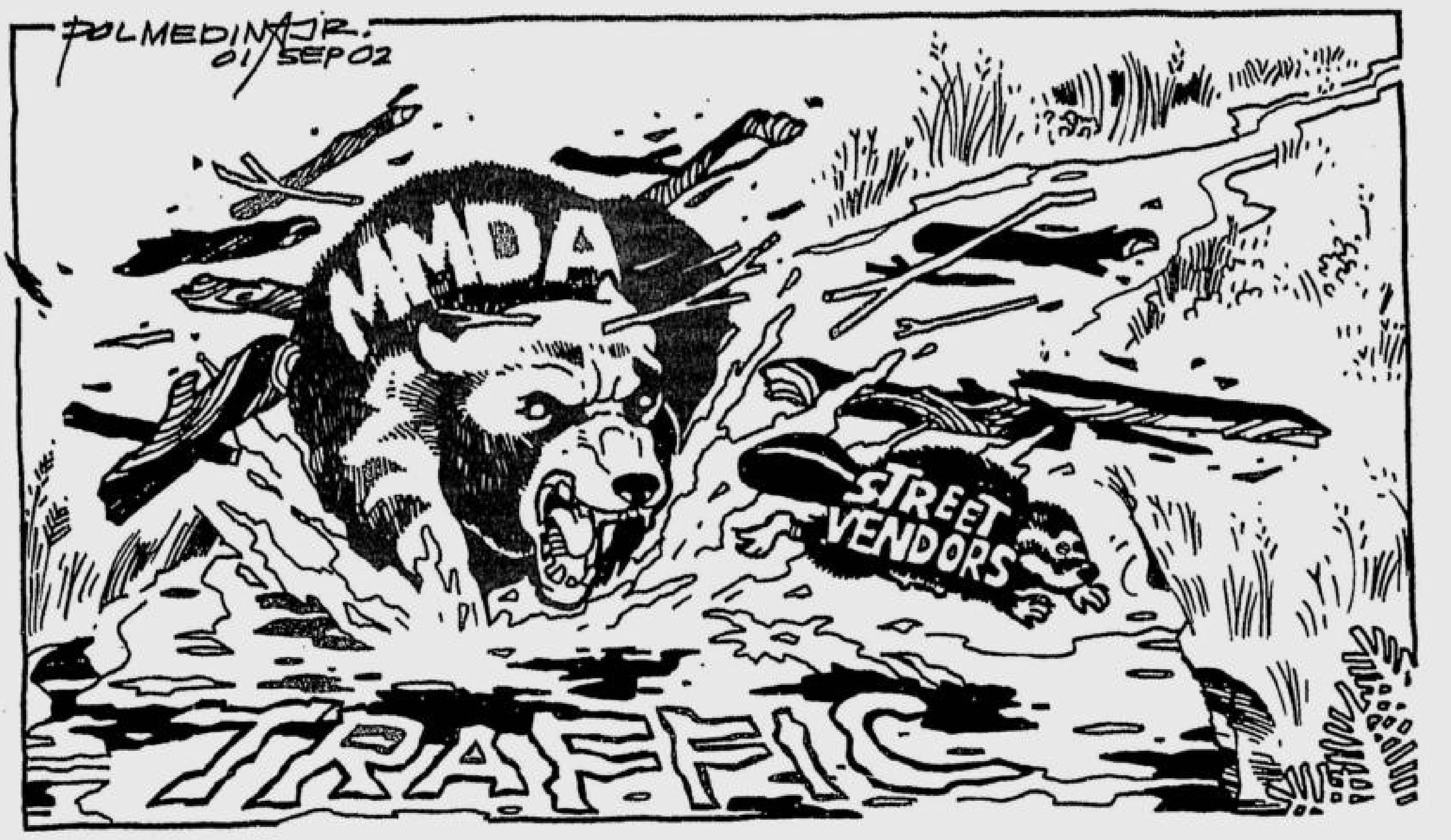


Political commodity

EDITORIAL

THREE presidents have used the death penalty as a political tool. President Macapagal-Arroyo, who renounced its use when she assumed office last year but embraced it as an anti-kidnapping measure last February, looks set to make the same mistake.

Last week, the President granted 90-day reprieves to convicted rapists Rolando Pagdayawon, Eddie Sernadilla and Filomeno Serrano. The grant came a few days after Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye announced that the executions scheduled for Aug. 30, Sept. 3 and Sept. 20 had been postponed in deference to the birthday of Jaime Cardinal Sin. The influential archbishop of Manila turned 74 yesterday.

On the face of it, the succeeding announcements from Malacañang constitute a victory for the anti-capital punishment movement. A closer look, however, shows that the Macapagal administration is merely playing a cynical game. The President has come to appreciate the political value of the death penalty, and looks determined to take advantage of it.

She won't be the first to do so. Ferdinand Marcos famously used capital punishment to consolidate political support during his first two terms and during the martial law years. In 1967, for example, a total of 12 convicts were executed, a rate of one per month. In the first four years of the martial law period, from 1972 to 1976, 12 more convicts were killed. (The last execution carried out was in 1976, but judicial or military-tribunal decisions continued to be handed down afterwards, most notably the 1977 ruling that ordered former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., Marcos' principal rival, "to die by firing squad.")

Marcos knew how to manipulate the images of state-sanctioned death. Before martial law was declared, he allowed the execution of three rapists in the sensational Maggie de la Riva case to be televised. As a dictator, he raised the sentence of heroin manufacturer Lim Seng to death, and then had him executed by firing squad.

The 1987 Constitution abolished capital punishment, but that did not prevent Fidel Ramos from discovering the political uses of the extreme sanction. Indeed, if there is one man who is responsible for resurrecting the death penalty, it is Ramos, who campaigned vigorously for it as a politically savvy defense secretary and then pushed an all-too-willing Congress to reinstate it when he became president.

While no convict was executed during his term, he used the issue as a panacea for the many ills that had overtaken the politicized military. He argued forcefully that low morale in the ranks and a high sense of military adventurism could be traced back to lack of political will, the abolition of the death penalty being proof positive of a weak hand.

Joseph Estrada, who ordered the country's first execution in more than two decades, also knew the political value of death. Having captured the public imagination with his tough-guy roles in blockbuster movies, he instinctively realized the impact the executions would have on the let's-get-tough-on-crime set. Like Ramos and Marcos before him, he equated the death penalty with strong government.

Now, add President Macapagal to this sorry list. In her second State of the Nation Address, where she announced the launching of the so-called strong republic, she declared that henceforth she would carry out all state executions. At the very least, she said, she would make an example of the first three executions before rethinking her decision.

This policy is almost as cynical as postponing an execution because of a bishop's birthday. Either the government is for executing all death convicts, or none at all. Making an example of three, or 30, is nothing but politicking. The President is scoring cheap political points with human life, and for what? So that enough people desperate by poverty and lawlessness may elect her to a full term in 2004?

If the sordid answer is yes, then in this sense Ms Macapagal has become Marcosian. She has come to understand all too well that, like rice, death is a political commodity.

Hearing both sides

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I RECEIVED a letter from Marie Tanya Enriquez-Llamas in defense of her father, Associate Justice Juan Q. Enriquez Jr. of the Court of Appeals, who is facing an administrative complaint for misconduct and ignorance of the law before the Supreme Court.

Ms Llamas deplores the widespread publicity given to the charges detailed in the administrative complaint against her father. Administrative complaints involving members of the judiciary are supposed to be confidential until they are finally decided. She says that the details of the charge as reported in the papers and by some columnists have already created the impression that her father is guilty.

Justice Enriquez is inhibited from publicly refuting the accusation against him because of the *sub judice* rule that the Supreme Court has been enforcing all these many decades. In this country, public comment on pending cases may be punished as contempt of court for interfering with judicial processes. As a judge, Enriquez is well aware of the possible consequences of the violation of the rule that he himself may have imposed during his long career on the bench.

I personally do not believe that public comment on pending cases will unduly influence judicial action, which is supposed to be independent and unswayed by irrelevant persuasions. But the Supreme Court apparently thinks otherwise, and maintains this ban of silence despite the guarantees of the Bill of Rights.

The curious situation in the Enriquez case is that the accusations against the respondent have been given much publicity not only in the news pages but also in the opinion columns, with the extrajudicial result that he is now regarded as a disgrace to the judiciary. By contrast, his accuser is now being hailed as a crusader against corrupt judges although his charges against Enriquez have yet to be proved before the Supreme Court as the sole judge of such matters.

Let me state at this point that I do not know Justice Juan Q. Enriquez Jr. or Antonio K. Litonjua, his accuser. I also do not know Ms Llamas, who has written to me out of filial love and duty for her father. But I do know that before a dispute may be decided, the requisites of due process must be observed, especially the right to be heard. The parties must have their "day in court" so that the judge may be able to reach a just decision based on the established facts and the pertinent law.

As I had occasion to stress when I was sitting on the Supreme Court:

"The closed mind has no place in the open society. It is part of the sporting idea of fair play to hear the other side before an opinion is formed or a decision is made by those who sit in judgment. Obviously, one side is only one-half of the question: the other half must also be considered if an impartial verdict is to be reached based on an informed appreciation of the issues in contention."

This could be the reason Enriquez has thrown discretion to the winds and released copies of his 57-page Comment on the complaint filed against him. He probably believes that the right to be heard must apply not only in the courts of justice but also in the media, which conduct their own trial by publicity. This kind of trial also reflects on a person's character and reputation, sometimes more than a judicial trial can. It therefore also deserves to be heard under the people's right to information on matters of public concern.

In the Comment that he filed with the Court as required, Enriquez denies that he received a P1.5-million bribe from the accuser for a favorable decision that he later reconsidered to benefit the other party. He claims this is the first time in his 37 years in the government that he has been charged criminally or administratively. On the other hand, complainant Litonjua faced a string of criminal charges from 1986 to 1989 and now has two outstanding warrants of arrest as well as income tax liabilities.

Both Enriquez and Litonjua laud the campaign against corruption in government, especially the courts of justice. The question is who between them speaks with the tongue of the publican and not of the Pharisee.

A person's character and reputation may not insure the truthfulness of his declaration even if made under oath. A crook may be telling the truth while a priest may be lying in his teeth, even as a criminal's testimony must be rejected for being polluted while an innocent child must be believed. Credibility is the criterion. In any event, the conflict between Enriquez and Litonjua will be resolved, not by the media acting as a jury without authorization or limitations, but by the Supreme Court alone after a careful study of the established facts and the pertinent laws.

I myself will not usurp judicial authority by making my own decisions on who between Enriquez and Litonjua is more credible. Any decision I may make will come from imperfect knowledge. I know no more about the charges and counter-charges than what I read in the papers, which may not have the impartiality or accuracy of a judicial investigation. My only concern is that both sides of this controversy be allowed to be heard, in the media no less than in the Court, so that the truth can be discovered, sustained, and enforced.

What for?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

IN 1995, when I was in the United States raising funds for our Filipino missionaries, I came home one evening very tired after a long day. When I received a phone call from my cousin telling me that he would pick me up to visit a possible benefactor who lived about an hour's drive away, I told him I was really tired. But he insisted that we go because he was an alumnus of our SVD school in Pangasinan. I told him again I was really tired.

He said, "*Sayang*. You know, he won the lotto last month."

"Oh yeah?" I hastened to say. "Pick me up. I'll be ready to go in 10 minutes."

* * *

The reason I relate this story is what happened to this person after he won the lotto. He gained the whole world, but in the process, he slowly forfeited his life (Mt. 16, 21-27). From a convenience store worker, he suddenly had millions in his hands, and he did not know how to handle it. Pride set in. His lifestyle changed. His character and values changed. The last thing I heard he had become drunk with his money and with power and had turned into a drunkard.

* * *

Some of us are going through life at a crazy pace and we do not even know where we are going. I realized this in one scary moment when driving at 90 kph at the North Expressway, I was suddenly enveloped in thick smoke caused by a grass fire. All of a sudden I could not see anything in front of me. I slowed down, stayed on course and prayed that I would not bump the car ahead of me and do not get bumped by the car behind me.

Sad to say, many of us are going through life at a very fast speed without even knowing where we are heading. Many of us have taken the road to perdition and self-destruction in our search for money, power and pleasure. Indeed, we ask again: What for? At what cost? Why? The bottom line is that all the money and the power, and all the pleasures of this world will not bring us lasting peace and happiness in this world and beyond. So slow down, stay on course and pray so that you do not self-destruct.

* * *

Sorry, there is no other road to a meaningful life in this world, and to eternal life in the next, but the way of the cross—the narrow, steep, winding road of sacrifice and suffering. There is another road, by the way. It is wide, downhill and straight—straight to hell.

Are you living a life of luxury, pleasure, vice, sin and good time? Careful. All these give you temporary and fleeting fulfillment, but they lead to a miserable existence. Sooner or later, all these will come to an end. And don't forget you, too, will come to an end. And where will you be then?

* * *

While there is still time, go back to the road that leads to heaven, because there will come a time when there will be no more time. To borrow the lines of a song: "What is time without love, what is love without time?" Time on earth spent without love is wasted time.

Some people waste precious time in pursuit of useless and fleeting worldly pleasures. The sad thing is that when finally they want to love, their time is up. Either they are already old, or are already disabled or have cancer. They look back on their lives with bitterness and regrets for all the wasted time.

When is the best time to go back? The best time is now. Not tomorrow, not next week, not after you have earned another million, not when you retire. "If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart."

* * *

I am quite amazed and amused at how some people go all out to gain publicity and grab credit. They will do anything to get the approval and applause of the people. What for, may I ask? Is it really that important? These people would do well to listen to Jesus' message: "What does it profit a man?" These people who are always asking, "What do people say?" must ask the more important question, "What does God say?"

Ikaw, anong say mo?

* * *

We are disappointed that Pope John Paul II will not be able to join us for the World Meeting of Families in January 2004, but there must be a reason, and "Thy will be done, Lord!"

Perhaps the difference between a person who is on the road of pleasure and power and a person who is on the road of sacrifice and suffering has to do with faith in a Power greater than him and a perspective broader than his. May God give us broader horizons and deeper convictions as we go on in life.

* * *

It's September once again. In no time at all, it will be Christmas once more. Time does fly. May we make good use of the time given to us by God. Live for something that will outlive you, not that which ends with you.

* * *

Advanced happy birthday to Mama Mary on Sept. 7. May we learn to be more humble, more sincere and more loving. Let us follow her on that long narrow, winding road that leads to a meaningful life which will, in the end, lead us to Heaven.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, slow me down and help me to stay focused on what is really important as I journey on. Amen.

The family: ideal and real perspectives

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

THE CLIMAX will be the 4th World Meeting of Families in Manila on Jan. 22-26, a first in Asia. Pope or no Pope, family related activities go on. The St. Theresa's Alumnae Association Recollection on Oct. 5 will have as its theme: "Family Paradigms: Meeting the Challenges and Opportunities for Renewal." The Prayer Power Campaign of Cory Aquino is in full swing. And as part of the ongoing Tri-centennial Celebration of San Carlos Seminary, its Graduate School of Theology held a conference on "Family and Citizenship." The speaker was Archbishop Paciano B. Aniceto, DD, of the Archdiocese of San Fernando, Pampanga, chair of the Family and Life Commission of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines. Reactors were Msgr. Sabino Vengco Jr., Theology professor at San Carlos, the Loyola School of Theology and the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Bulacan, and head of Kadiwa, the ministry caring for elderly priests; and myself.

Archbishop Aniceto linked up family-citizen-seminarians, a challenging triangle that he urged the seminarians as future priests to actualize. He talked of the "politics of interest" practiced by professional politicians as "the biggest bane," "the most hurtful" in our national life; "the politics of the nation" practiced by statesman and leaders truly working for the common good above personal interest; and "the politics of community" lived by you and me as good citizens in our neighborhoods. Of these three, it is "the politics of community" in which "citizens as family members" are primarily involved. "It is the family where the politics of community finds its expression."

And what qualities in the Filipino family, culture and spirituality would future priests be working with? Drawing from various sources, the archbishop included: family oriented, meal-oriented (*salu-salo*), *kundiman*-oriented, *bayani*-oriented, spirit-oriented; a sense of social order and deep religiosity; an inner self cultivated through ascetical practices, prayer, self-discipline; *kaliwanagan ng loob*—illumination of the spirit; *kapatiran*—brotherhood; *damayan*—compassion; *lakaran*—pilgrimage.

He closed with a challenge to the seminarians—"You, as future priests, are the architects of a new family and a new citizenship"—a daunting task under any circumstance.

Down to harsher reality, I pointed out that most of the aforementioned qualities are not exactly conducive to the politics of community. Except for "a sense of order" and *kapatiran*, the rest hold little promise for a citizenship "participating in the development of society," one of four papal tasks for the family.

Our over-estimated virtue of being "family-oriented" deteriorates to a vice when it becomes "clannish, limiting its generosity and charity only among its members," when the "closed family" mentality makes of the family "an idol to which the common good is often sacrificed." Look at our mayors and congressmen providing for their families as if they would live till the end of the world.

The "*kundiman* mentality" with its undertones of sadness and suffering is not conducive to a more robust spirit needed in aggressive citizenship. Our "*damayan*—compassion" is truly forgive-and-forget, for when we forgive (Erap? Marcos? Honasan?), we forget all about justice. The "*bayani*-orientation" which hopefully harbors heroism comes out as a *pangulo* mentality which makes us fall all over ourselves before political VIPs, entitling them to all manner of graft and misdemeanor.

Monsignor Vengco pointed out that even our "spirituality" may not be conducive to the politics of community as it is like a quid pro quo arrangement whereby we go on pilgrimage—*lakaran*, or pray, expecting some favor or exchange at the end. So, where is the change, both personal and social?

A seminarian's concern reflected the factors "destroying or deforming" the family when he noted single or separated parents who he hoped might find support groups in Basic Ecclesial Communities. No longer is the family the strongest influence on children surrounded by audio-visual, media and IT overload, or by extreme poverty or by strange climes and people. No longer will the priest deal with the conventional family but with the many configurations that have evolved.

In moving Filipino, one seminarian asked in what almost sounded like a plea: How then shall we transform or renew the family? Archbishop Aniceto and Monsignor Vengco assured him that efforts would be made to augment what was already in place on the family ministry in seminaries.

I suggested the case method in presenting actual and specific life problems. With guide questions for discussion, each case could lead to insights on husband-wife relations, poverty, children, health, women's rights etc., a longer process but more convincing.

There was no more time but I would have added that the approach would be salutary for the Church, which is used to "imposing" principles and rules from above, like, "This is the way the family should be" and that's that. The case method starts from what "is" and proceeds to what "should be."

Is the Church on the way to becoming a listening Church, wide open and without the tiniest shred of pre-judgment? A troubled woman approached the archbishop. He listened—all he did was listen. The woman felt better and for that she was grateful.

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist.

Population, poverty and politics

COMMENTARY

Nereus Acosta

A RECENT INQUIRER editorial aptly called it a "time bomb," underscoring a situation of dire urgency. But in official policy circles, the population problem probably isn't viewed as such—at least not overtly. Which makes it all the more alarming. The adage referring to a well-recognized and examined problem being already half of the solution apparently does not apply in this critical case. The government chooses to bury its head in the sand, as it were, perhaps owing to the exigencies of politics and fears of a political fallout one way or the other.

In her State of the Nation Address, President Macapagal-Arroyo did not even allude to the population issue in her expostulations on poverty and the need to reduce this. As Conrado de Quiros posits, the President's Sona followed the rather inverted syllogism of poverty being caused by the trickle of foreign investments, which shy away from the country because of rising criminality and peace and order problems. Deal with the latter, the President said, and you invite foreign investments, thereby increasing employment and reducing poverty.

Flawed argument

While not entirely baseless, this is at best an oversimplified and flawed argument. Any economist will tell us that the allocation of increasingly scarce (natural, financial and material) resources is directly linked with the number of people competing for or in need of such resources. The more unequal wealth distribution is in society and the more intense the competition for limited resources, the greater the social dislocation and attendant criminality. A decent quality of life, which every government professes to provide for its citizens, is integrally connected to the sound management of a society's population and its resources.

We don't have to belabor the points about severe shortages of classrooms and teachers, high unemployment and underemployment rates, a great lack of health services, food insecurity, gargantuan housing needs, a persistent budget deficit, grave pressures on our natural ecosystems (forests, watersheds, seas, land) on which we all depend for life itself, and so on, to dramatize how precarious our situation is. All in large account because of a burgeoning 80 plus million population, the 14th most populous country in the world, with the highest fertility rate in Asia and a density rate now exceeding that of China. In 2030, we will be the seventh most populous in the world with a population of 160 million.

This year, the executive branch submitted to Congress a whopping P800-billion national budget to fund an endless stream of needs of an expanding population base. We can be sure that this amount will still fall short of meeting the elemental needs of our people.

Three babies a minute

Countries in the region like Thailand, Malaysia, even Indonesia, have managed to bring their birth rates to way below 2 percent, allowing for greater resources to fund basic services and infrastructure. The Philippines maintains a 2.36 percent population growth rate, which means three babies are born every minute and close to two million a year. That is like adding to the national census a whole metropolitan area like Quezon City, or three medium-sized cities like, say, Cagayan de Oro or Iloilo, every year!

President Macapagal, however, says it's not a pressing concern because population growth is, after all, a global problem and technology will serve to stem any doomsday scenarios. It makes one wonder if this is misplaced optimism or whether this is simply, as one academic opines, "sheer intellectual dishonesty." Going by the recent Sona, it may be safe to say that nothing by way of a definitive statement on a population management policy will be forthcoming.

While no doubt policy initiatives must continue to focus on reform in the fiscal, administrative, peace and order, and anti-corruption and governance spheres, population and human development variables should be integral to the shaping of a framework for moving the country forward. The Ateneo's Institute on Church and Social Issues has issued cogent commentaries on such matters. Anna Marie Karaos suggests assembling a wide array of the best minds in the social sciences, ethics, moral theology, medicine and the sciences to survey the choices and alternatives we have. In addition, the government needs to initiate a workable program that is underpinned by information, education and access to methods of family planning that people deem most appropriate to their personal circumstances and convictions.

Ranks of desperation

We don't have to be Malthusian to see how much population pressures impact the many who live on less than P50 a day and who have no access to clean water, sufficient food and decent housing. Obviously, we cannot build a "strong republic" under such dire conditions. While laudable as a vision constituting stable and functioning institutions and a state free of the fetters of dominant familial and class interests, one asks whether we can have a strong republic when we have an exploding population—leaving a vast majority weak, hungry, struggling and politically alienated.

From these ranks of desperation rise the specter of crime and social disintegration. Poverty exacerbated and deepened by runaway population growth, makes it more difficult to reach a measure of economic and political stability. And it is on this stability that a strong republic is anchored. It is time our leaders looked at these problems and interrelated concerns from a holistic vantage and produced meaningful solutions with greater commitment, courage and a critical sense of urgency.

Nereus Acosta is serving a second term in Congress and is board secretary of the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Human Development (PLCPD).

Mitch's rocking life

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

"IF I met today the woman I was back then, I would slap her!" Mitch Valdes laughingly told TV host Cito Beltran when she appeared recently in his show on ANC.

The fiftysomething Mitch was talking about the twentysomething Mitch, then going by the screen name of Maya Valdes, and first making a name for herself as a lounge singer, stage performer, TV comedienne and movie actor. Mitch joined a crop of new performers from the rarefied halls of exclusive women's colleges then invading the world of local entertainment, previously deemed too "*baduy*" and not deserving of respectability. With performers like June Keithley, Maan Hontiveros and Celeste Legaspi, Mitch was deemed to have brought class and intelligence to local entertainment, and by her own account, Mitch soon began to think that by joining the field, she was doing everyone else a favor.

Always outspoken, unabashed in her behavior, but abundantly talented, Mitch not only survived her early hubris, she has prevailed in the fickle world of show biz, where performers are discarded and forgotten the second they exceed their "sell by" date. Women artists, especially, face increasingly earlier deadlines, their careers threatened with the first faint signs of crow's feet and wayward chins.

How remarkable, and laudable, then to see Mitch onstage, at "Onstage" in Greenbelt, still singing and laughing, shakin' her booty and refusing to apologize for everything she has gone through. The years—of excess, indulgence and abuse, true, but also of *joie de vivre* and adventure—are fully on display in the woman that Mitch has become. She's walking testimony of what "women of a certain age" have long insisted, that a woman's value isn't to be equated with her allure, desirability, maternal role, or the man who gives her his name. We may lose skin elasticity and our curves may have turned to humps, our children may fly the coop and our men off in search of younger prey, but we are, if anything, more in touch with our inner selves, and more welcoming to the possibilities that life has to offer. Indeed, as her show title exclaims: "Mitch Rocks!"

* * *

ABOUT the most rollicking portion of Mitch's show is her take on "the tortures of the damned" that women have to put themselves through in the vain effort to hang on to straying husbands.

Men don't know what women have to put up with just to create a presentable front, said Mitch. Let's start with the shoes, that require us to jam our toes into narrow, pointed stilettos that have us teetering on four-inch heels. "Just like the women in 'Sex and the City'," says Mitch, who notes though that the women aren't shown sitting down after every take.

Then there's the need to conceal all that body fat inside support hose, a girdle and a push-up bra. "But fat, like water, has to go somewhere," Mitch reminds, "so what you don't know is that by the time you're done, you have just gained two breasts at the back."

Of course, women can also try to cut out all that fat, through exercise, diets or, if all else fails, liposuction. Or, we can try taking shortcuts, such as drugs that promise weight reduction without need for exhausting exercise or frustrating diets, but with unexpected, embarrassing side effects. "Xenical, the overweight woman's best friend, the *lavandera's* nightmare," Mitch deadpans, Clearly, Mitch has been there, done that. Not just a youthful brush with drugs, but a most nerve-wracking encounter with the mammography machine, so full of literally painful truths and genuinely funny insights it has women who've nursed residual nightmares about their own mammograms laughing and breaking into applause.

Mammograms as part of a stand-up comic's act? Only Mitch Valdes can pull it off. And only a woman who's faced life and taken all it had to offer can turn a lifelong roller-coaster ride and turn into the stuff of comedy.

* * *

SEN. FRANCIS Pangilinan, Richard Gomez, Armida Siguion Reyna, Carlitos Siguion Reyna, Bibeth Orteza, Robert Arevalo, Barbara Perez, Tony Mabesa, Princess Punzalan, Angel Aquino, Joey Ayala and Jon Santos—what do all these and other celebrities have in common?

All of them and other surprise guests will be reading from the latest literary titles of the UP Press at the launching of its "Read UP!" campaign. The launching will be held next Sunday, Sept. 8, at the Megatrade Hall B, SM Megamall, as part of the Philippine Bookfair.

The "Read UP!" campaign is being launched to encourage more readers, especially among the young, to read Philippine books, "addressing the concern about the waning interest in books and the deterioration of reading skills among young Filipinos."

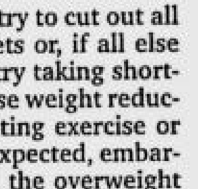
* * *

AS part of the campaign, the UP Press is offering its first set of the UP Jubilee Student Edition at the Bookfair. This new line of inexpensive books is aimed at making the finest of contemporary Philippine literature in English and Filipino more accessible to students and to the general public.

The first package consists of three first books, two new editions and two reprints of books by some of the most distinguished writers of the country. The new books are: "Smaller and Smaller Circles," a novel by F.H. Batacan; "Barriotic Punk," stories by Mes De Guzman; and "Marginal Bliss," a collection of poems by Carlomar Daoana. The other four books are new editions of Jose Y. Dalisay Jr.'s "Old Timer and Other Stories" and Jun Cruz Reyes' "Utos ng Hari," and reprints of Rio Alma's "(A)lamat at (H)istorya" and Gemino H. Abad's "Poems and Parables."

Nationalist fundamentalism

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy David

IT is very difficult to characterize the Malaysian government's recent action against Filipinos living in Sabah. The cruelty is astounding. One can only call it "nationalist fundamentalism"—the belief in national identity, in this case Malaysian, as a source of rights, to the exclusion of all other human affinities. If the situation had been reversed, an action like this would have led the world to think that Filipinos were engaged in religious cleansing.

For, almost all those who are being ejected from Malaysian territory are Muslims from Malay stock. They include not only Filipinos but also Indonesians. Physically and culturally, they would pass for "bumiputra" (son of the soil)—that favored segment of the Malaysian population that Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad once called his country's "definitive people." Why is the Malaysian government going after them? And how do we explain this seeming paradox?

The official explanation is that Malaysia has recently tightened its immigration policy. A new law was passed in April 2002 and its strict implementation began only this August. Filipinos are not the only targets of this campaign against illegal migrants, we are told. More Indonesians have been deported since the campaign started. This is believable; there are far more Indonesians residing in Malaysia than Filipinos.

The ruthless crackdown caught these "aliens" by surprise. Malaysian authorities had previously maintained a lenient policy toward undocumented migrants from the neighboring islands. They kept them under regular surveillance, but left them alone. They knew more or less where they were, but conducted only occasional raids to keep their numbers in check. Most of these "illegals" have lived in Malaysia for decades. Their children, a number of whom are infants who died from disease and dehydration in crowded prisons, are Malaysian-born.

It may be argued that none of these deportees think of themselves as Malaysian anyway. But then it is doubtful if they think of themselves as Filipino or Indonesian either. These are national identities that, in all likelihood, have no bearing on their self-understanding as ethnic Malays. Their ancestors—the Tausug and the Samal—traveled and settled in these parts for centuries without restriction. Long before there were nations, they shuttled freely between Southern Mindanao and Borneo, formed autonomous communities and mingled with other groups. They had their own dialects but they communicated with other communities in the lingua franca of the region, Malay.

Colonialism carved this region into separate territories, and from these colonial possessions arose the modern nation-states that today exclusively confer identities on their populations, and issue passports, visas and identity cards. The British took Malaya, the Dutch controlled Indonesia, and the Spaniards and later the Americans took possession of the Philippines. They drew the boundaries that marked the extent of their imagined political authority, completely oblivious of the pre-national relationships that had evolved among the peoples of these islands over many centuries of interaction.

This historical blindness was then passed on to the national elites that took over the reins of government of these newly independent states. In time, we too—the postcolonial descendants of these ancient peoples—began to recite our history only from the moment of European "discovery."

Today, these immigrants without papers are a living challenge to the hegemony of the Malaysian, Philippine and Indonesian states. Their basic communal affinities, cemented by Islam, constitute a powerful base for an oppositional identity. It is not farfetched to think that the nationalist cleansing and sealing of borders that Malaysia is now undertaking were prompted by its fear of becoming a regional center for the resurgence of Islam as an armed political force. Malaysia sees its porous borders in Borneo, settled by impoverished Muslim communities, as the breeding ground for militant Islamism, and it is determined to preempt this.

This fear is shared by its neighbors, all modernizing secular states with large Islamic populations. As their economies falter, these postcolonial states find it increasingly difficult to sell the idea of modern nationhood to the impoverished segments of their populations. Soon they must come face to face with the challenge of separatism based on alternative identity and paradigms of community. Today, militant Islam is providing the most attractive alternative to the excesses of modernity and the inequities of unbridled capitalism.

It is interesting that nationalist fundamentalism should find roots in Malaysia, a multi-racial society with a relatively small population and a more successful economy than the Philippines or Indonesia. But so much has changed in one year. Malaysian authorities arrested MNLF leader Nur Misuari when he landed in Sabah a few months ago—the same separatist rebel they harbored in the 1980s. Now they are deporting ordinary immigrants from Tawi-Tawi and Sulu—the same people from whose labor Malaysia profited for decades.

This can only spring from the same xenophobic paranoia that has spread like a virus around the world following America's response to Sept. 11. It is a sickness, and it would be a tragedy if we went to war with Malaysia over this.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

THEY SAID

Civic duty

"It is the civic duty of the public because they are stakeholders in the administration of justice."

—Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, encouraging the people to report irregularities committed by judges

Immoral expansion

"It's not a question of what is legal; it is a question of what is morally upright and morally sound."

—President Macapagal-Arroyo, ordering a stop to the slot machine project of Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp.

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TALK *of the* TOWN

Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

Do we need a medical malpractice law?

MEDICAL errors are fatal. As many as 100,000 people die every year in the United States because of hospital errors, more than the number of people who lose their lives as a result of highway accidents, breast cancer, or AIDS.

No data on people dying from medical errors in the country are available. What we have are stories of Filipinos prematurely meeting their Maker due to these alleged mistakes.

A bill in the House of Representatives seeks to strengthen the right of a patient to quality medical care by providing penalties for gross negligence not just by doctors but also by dentists, nurses, pharmacists, medical and dental assistants, nursing assistants, and therapists.

Under House Bill No. 4955, malpractice can lead to imprisonment, cancellation of the license to practice the medical profession and a fine of up to P1 million.

But doctors want the bill "killed," saying that if passed, it would raise medical fees because they would be forced to get malpractice insurance and to practice "defensive medicine" by requiring patients to undergo rigorous laboratory tests before diagnosis and treatment.

'A challenge to reaffirm the Hippocratic Oath'

By Rep. Ted Failon
1st District, Leyte

THE IDEA of a medical malpractice law is not new. Bills to that effect were filed in the 9th, 10th and 11th Congress. Unfortunately, they failed to get serious consideration and did not even pass second reading on the committee level in either chamber of Congress.

The proposed law is on the table of the 12th Congress, thanks to the persistence of Rep. Oscar Rodriguez of Pampanga, its principal author.

I threw my strong support behind the bill as co-author, having seen the need for such a law in the endless stream of cases brought to my attention as a host of a public service program.

A boy dies at the operating table while undergoing operation for a broken wrist. A housewife becomes comatose after a Caesarian operation.

A patient almost dies while undergoing transfusion because she was infused with the wrong type of blood by the attending medical technologist. So on and so forth.

Sleep of the dead

In the days after I delivered a privileged speech calling out to my colleagues in Congress not to let the pending malpractice bill "sleep the sleep of the dead" like what happened to its earlier versions in the three previous Congresses, we heard in the media of two more prominent patients—one an incumbent legislator and the other a former one—brought to the brink of death by the apparent gross negligence of medical specialists at a very expensive, supposedly "prestigious" Metro Manila hospital.

The stories never end.

Ironically, the loudest opposition to the proposed law comes from the Philippine Medical Association (PMA), the country's biggest association of physicians.

The PMA says that a law on medical malpractice will encourage defensive medicine. This means that physicians will be forced to submit their patients to expensive laboratory tests, if only "to play safe," instead of just basing their personal diagnosis on manifest physical symptoms.

Is this an admission by the PMA itself that without the aid of laboratory tests, a medical doctor's reading of the patient's ailment is all guesswork and, therefore, cannot really be fully relied upon?

If that be so, why do away with laboratory tests and cling to an obsolete way of determining a patient's ailment?

Without laboratory tests, for instance, how many patients have been prescribed medicines they are allergic to?

Compelling reason

Laboratory tests are expensive, the PMA says. Is this enough justification to bring down the quality of health care below the proper standards of safety?

Of course not. And precisely, the bill provides the government a compelling reason to look into the soundness of the medical charges in our country with the end-view of rationalizing the cost of health care and possibly allocating—especially for the sake of poor patients—funds for hospital laboratory services.

The point actually begs the question: Is it not high time for the government to find a way to equip its hospitals, especially those in the provinces, with the much-needed laboratory and diagnostic facilities such as the CT Scan?

Another argument that the PMA raises against the proposed law is that it will force doctors to buy insurance against malpractice, which will definitely increase their professional fees.

High fees

Even now, the fees are way, way high above the minimum wage. Is it not time, too, for the government to regulate the professional fees of doctors? If it can be done in a rich country like the United States, why not in a developing nation like the Philippines?

The PMA also contends that a Medical Malpractice Law will adversely affect the doctor-patient relationship, placing the physician ill-at-ease at the thought that such a law is a Damocles' sword that a patient hangs over the doctor's head.

Compassion

I beg to disagree. The bill does not seek to re-write the Hippocratic Oath. It simply reaffirms the unbending virtues—sincere compassion, sensitivity, utmost dedication to service, integrity, deep-seated respect for and pride in the profession—that have kept Medicine among, if not the most, respectable and noble professions through the centuries.

Unfortunately, without any shame, remorse or respect for their fellows, a few stethoscope-bearing scalawags are making a medical quack industry out of the Philippine medical profession for highly unconscionable profits.

They are no better, if worse, than the untrained quack doctors. They must be stopped and prevented from plying their trade before they bring the entire medical profession crashing down.

Society, the government and the profession itself cannot afford such debacle.

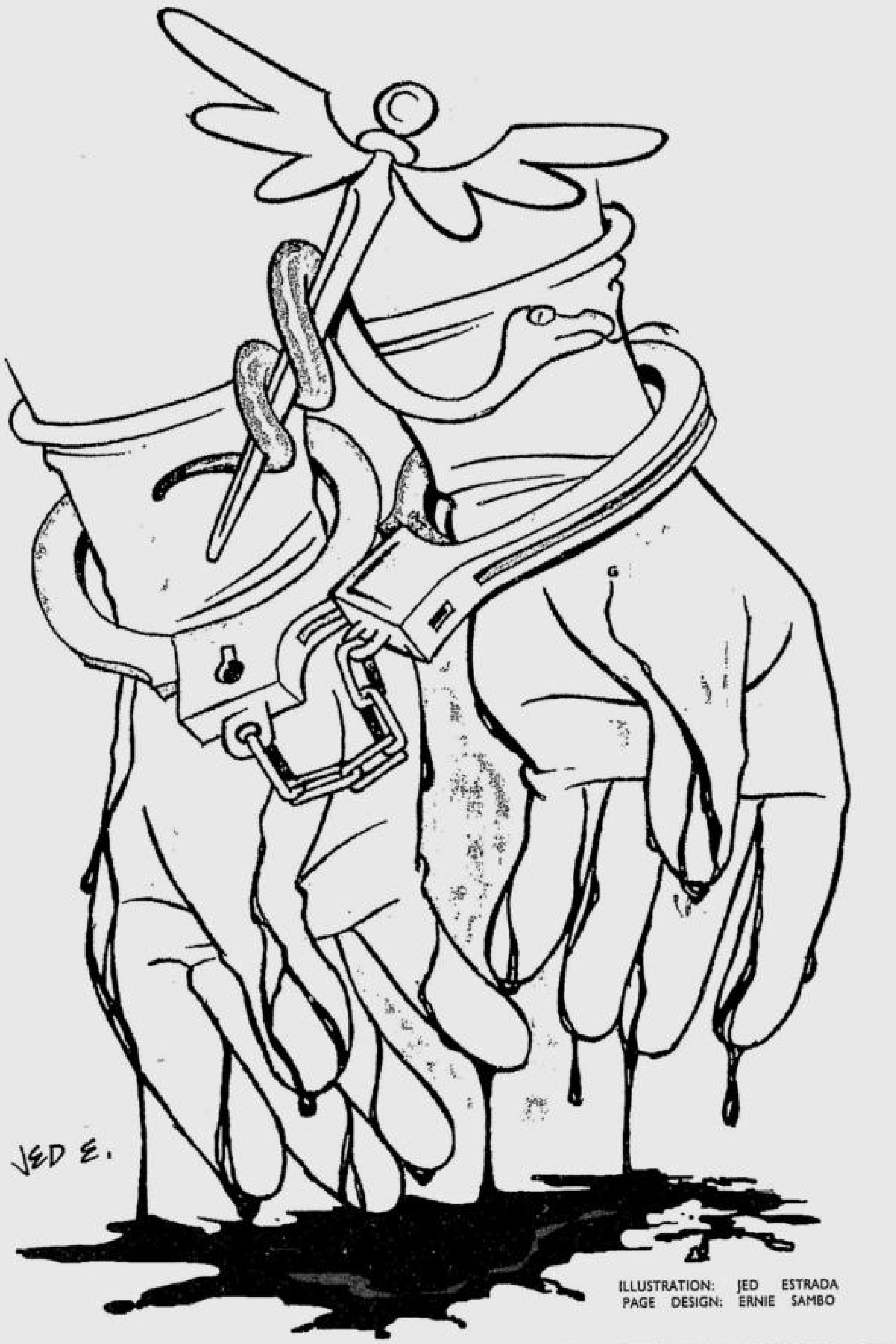
It is therefore imperative that we exert utmost effort to protect the profession from the scalawags in its ranks. This is the essential purpose of the Medical Malpractice Bill.

For sure it is not in perfect form. But let us not allow our emotions to cloud our discussions on the bill.

I appeal to one and all, to all health professionals, to our policy makers and to the public at large to keep an open mind.

Let us keep our discussions on the proposed law on the cerebral level.

At the end of the day, when all is said and done, and everyone has spoken his piece, let it only be then that we render final judgment and submit the bill to the wisdom of Congress for decision.



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'The bill will jeopardize the cordial patient-doctor relation'

By Conrado P. Banzon, MD
Chair, Commission on Legislation, Philippine Medical Association (PMA)

WE IN the PMA, comprising majority of the licensed physicians in the country, are in agreement with the proposition that sanctions be imposed on practitioners guilty of malpractice.

However, the PMA respectfully submits that the proposed legislation be re-studied, to include an in-depth discussion bereft of the usual emotional outburst in media, as any discussion on the matter is of great significance and importance to the medical and allied professions.

Malpractice sanctions already exist. There are today in existence, long and adequate remedies against acts of malpractice arising from negligence or deliberate intent. The Revised Penal Code, for one, imposes penalties for deprivation of life, or professions, committed either intentionally or by negligence or ignorance. On the other hand, doctors may also be subjected to pecuniary liability under the Civil Code for damage to a person's well-being caused by them, intentionally or by negligence. Moreover, the ethics committees of the PMA and the Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) are open to receive, investigate and apply appropriate sanctions on doctors guilty of malpractice.

Unconstitutional

Quoting the column of retired Supreme Court Senior Justice Isagani Cruz in the Inquirer on Aug. 24, "But I do agree with the doctors that one provision of the medical malpractice bill is clearly unconstitutional. This is the penalty clause, which provides that the "medical malpractice and the practice of illegal surgery shall be punished by *prision mayor* and the cancellation of the license to practice the medical profession and a fine ranging from P500,000 to P1,000,000 in the discretion of the court.

"I have no quarrel with *prision mayor*," Cruz said, "...but the fine is another matter. The language of the bill is conjunctive, not disjunctive, which means it must be imposed in every case.

"Section 20 of the bill clearly and expressly provides that 'excessive fines shall not be imposed.' Even at the current peso exchange rate, the amount of from P500,000 to P1,000,000 cannot be considered peanuts; it is unquestionably excessive by any standard...It is like punishing jaywalking with life imprisonment."

The Revised Penal Code punishes physical injuries without intent to kill, frustrated homicide, or other types of serious physical injuries without intent to kill, only by imprisonment of from six months and one day to six years (*prision* correctional). We humbly submit that such disproportion in the bill between the wrongful act and the penalty proposed may render the bill vulnerable to constitutional attack for imposing cruel and inhuman punishment.

Singled out

The measure may also be assailed as being a class legislation because the medical profession is singled out to the exclusion of other professions. By excluding practitioners of traditional medicine, the bill can be criticized as unduly discriminatory because its application is directed to those who take and pass the qualifying examinations administered by the PRC.

At present, because of lack of funds and the abject poverty of many patients or the natural disinclination to spend more than necessary for personal services, doctors make do with what is called their "clinical eye" or on a personal examination and evaluation developed through years of experience. This may no longer be deemed feasible or prudent in light of the heavy sanctions on the proposed law.

These severe actions as proposed in the bill will compel physicians and dentists to resort to defensive medical or dental practice, in their attempt to eliminate every risk by requiring sophisticated, technological and expensive tests before treatment, even if not absolutely necessary. They will also have to take out malpractice insurance as found in a developed country like the United States.

Quoting again Justice Cruz's column, he wrote "With all its present inadequacies, the only effect of the bill, if passed, will be to require medical and other allied professionals to take medical insurance for their own protection. They will also require the patient to undergo all kinds of tests, some of them unnecessary, to avoid errors in diagnosing and treating the ailment, if any. The cost of all these precautions will be charged, of course, to the patient."

Therefore, is it fair to conclude that the patient will be the eventual loser which this proposed legislation is supposed to protect?

Finally, should we allow the bill to jeopardize an important and prevailing sympathetic and cordial patient-doctor relation that has endured for so long a time?

'I lost my right eyesight due to a bungled surgery'

By Vic Chan
Painter and antique collector

THE MEDICAL malpractice bill will make doctors more prudent in handling their patients.

We put our trust and fate in them, follow their suggestions blindly, thinking that these would make us well.

But then the opposite happens, something that these so-called specialists cannot undo.

After losing my right eyesight to a bungled surgery, I have this to say, *sinira nila ang buhay ko.*

How can I work when my right eye cannot see? It was perfectly okay until I went through that surgery. My left eye is not doing well either. I don't want to read the newspaper, watch television, or do anything that would strain my left eye because I am afraid that these will further aggravate the condition of my other vision.

Too much light can even scare me because this might affect my eye. And at night, I cannot see anymore.

My family suffered the most. My youngest daughter cries whenever she sees me. She refused to leave and go abroad because of my condition.

Tears

On Feb. 6, 2002, I went to a hospital in Quezon City to have my left eye checked because of excessive shedding of tears.

The doctors found a blood clot in my left eye. I was advised that I be operated on immediately.

They also told me that even if I have no complaints with my right eye, it still needed to be operated on because they found a "reddish" substance on it.

Furthermore, they told me that the operation should be done at another hospital because the needed equipment was not available at the first hospital at the time.

I was not able to get a second opinion from other doctors because they immediately scheduled my operation.

And so on Feb. 8 and 9, I had surgery on my left and right eyes respectively and both were again lasered on Feb. 11.

However, on Feb. 15 my right eye swelled so I had it checked. We later found out that the swelling was due to infection.

On the same day, they performed another surgery on my infected right eye. I was assured that it would heal in a week or two, but months have passed and my right eye still can't see.

The operation permanently damaged my good right eyesight.

I went to Taiwan to consult other doctors regarding my situation, but unfortunately, they cannot do anything anymore.

No explanation

At first what I really wanted was just an explanation from the doctors about what happened to my eyes. I didn't care about how much I spent on the operation, I just wanted an explanation. The doctors didn't give me one and instead one of them filed a libel case against my lawyer. They referred to the bungled eye surgery as an accident. An accident that should not have happened in the first place.

One of the doctors even suggested that I consult with his colleague's wife who specializes in Rehabilitation Medicine. Naturally, I declined, thinking that this was just part of another ruse.

My eyes are very important to me. I never got any apology from them. They abandoned me after the bungled operation that not only cost me P232,593, but also my right eyesight.

An artificial eye would not do. I still won't be able to see.

What happened to me is the result of heeding the advice and suggestions of doctors I had trusted.

My case is already included in the medical malpractice bill. I already filed a complaint with the Professional Regulatory Commission, asking it to revoke the doctors' licenses.

I am doing this to inform the people so that they will not experience the same thing.

The bill will be a big help especially for all the victims of medical malpractice.

I am continuously having my left eye checked. Hopefully, the indemnification that I will receive can be used for future medical expenses.

(Interview by Trina Lagura)

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Al-Qaida crossed borders, got guns despite clampdown

UNITED NATIONS—A UN arms embargo and travel ban have failed to stop members of al-Qaida and the Taliban from moving undetected across international borders and receiving fresh supplies of weapons and ammunition, a UN draft report says.

The report by an expert group cited porous borders, especially between Afghanistan and Pakistan, difficulties with the list of individuals subject to UN sanctions, and the secrecy surrounding the illicit arms trade.

Nearly a year after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks against the United States, the report said the global campaign against terrorism has pushed al-Qaida underground but hasn't stopped the flow of money and fresh recruits to carry out new terrorist attacks.

The US Treasury Department, responding to Thursday's draft report, said it was confident that efforts to disrupt terrorist finances "are having real-world effects"—and that al-Qaida is suffering financially.

"We also believe that potential donors are being more cautious about giving money to organizations where they fear that the money might wind up in the hands of terrorists. In addition, greater regulatory scrutiny in financial systems around the world is further marginalizing those who would support terrorist groups and activities," it said in a statement.

But the Treasury stressed that there was still urgent work to do to deal with issues cited by the UN experts, including the abuse of charities and the use of informal networks for transferring funds outside normal banking and government controls known as hawalas.

The experts were authorized by the UN Security Council to monitor UN sanctions adopted requiring all nations to freeze the finances and impose arms embargoes and travel bans on individuals and groups associated with Osama bin Laden, al-Qaida and the Taliban—wherever they are in the world.

Calling the monitoring of the arms embargo their "most complex and challenging task," the experts said they were concerned at reports that weapons are flowing to groups that support al-Qaida in southeast Asia. *AP*

Afghan warlord admits Taliban prisoners' deaths

KABUL, Afghanistan—A northern Afghan warlord admitted Friday that some Taliban prisoners suffocated last year while being transported in shipping containers but said the deaths were "not intentional" and mostly due to disease and injuries suffered in heavy fighting.

Abdul Rashid Dostum said in a statement that 200 Taliban fighters died during a four-day operation in November to transfer them from Kunduz, which had just been captured by the then-opposition northern alliance, to the northern city of Shibergan.

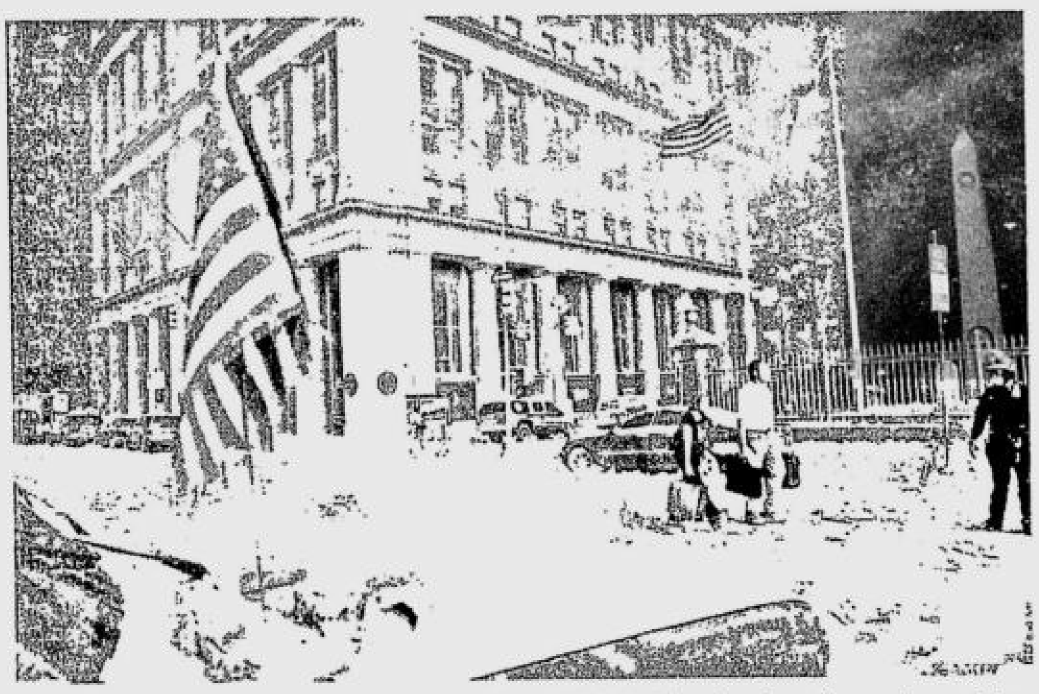
Some reports have put the death toll at more than 900.

"In no case were any prisoners killed. In no case was there any intention that they should die in containers," Dostum said in a joint statement with three other northern alliance commanders.

The statement said 200 out of 400 people died.

"It is essential to recognize that most of these died of wounds from bombing and fighting in Kunduz . . . but also due to disease, suffocation, suicide and a general weakness after weeks of intense fighting and bombardment," the statement added.

Reports that up to 960 captured Taliban fighters suffocated to death after they were crammed into unventilated metal shipping containers began emerging late last year. *AP*



PEDESTRIANS carry belongings as they walk amid debris following the collapse of one of the World Trade Center towers Sept. 11, 2001 in New York in this file photo. AFP

Ex-spy, 2 nuke outcasts, despots winners after 9/11

By Jon Boyle

MOSCOW—A former KGB spy, two nuclear outcasts and a bevy of Central Asian despots have emerged as the surprising winners in the post-September 11 world, while the star of the once reliable royal house of Saud has waned.

Analysts say Russian President Vladimir Putin seized the chance to offer unprecedented intelligence aid for the ensuing US "war on terrorism" that allowed him to reposition Russia as a reliable, though not uncritical, ally.

Pakistan's military leadership has—for now—swapped pariah status for membership of the coalition hunting for Osama bin Laden, the key suspect in last year's devastating attacks, its lack of democratic credentials suddenly less important.

Regional rival India has also gained from the increased US role in the region, notably over the Kashmir conflict, while Central Asia's once unpalatable leaders have been born again as US allies and bulwarks against Muslim extremism.

US bombs and Russian Kalashnikovs relieved Afghanistan of the little-lamented Taliban rulers that had sheltered bin Laden, though rebuilding the faction-ridden country will be as daunting as the 12 labors of Hercules for President Hamid Karzai.

[illegible] Saudia Arabia, once the archetypal pro-Western Arab state, has seen its stock fall sharply. Fifteen of the kingdom's subjects took part in the hijacked airliner attacks, now known in the United States simply by the US date "9/11".

"From an American point of view, there is no question but that Russia has rocketed up the list of possible partners," said Philip Gordon, senior fellow at Washington's Brookings Institution. Russia's recent acceptance of weapons-grade uranium from Yugoslavia in a US-funded operation was clear evidence of Washington's new-found confidence in Moscow, he said.

"The skill of Putin was not only that he perceived the opportunity of moving closer to the United States, and at a stroke deflected or deflated the criticism about Chechnya in all Western governments," said Jonathan Eyal, director of studies at London's Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies.

"He even managed to persuade the elite in Moscow that this time the conversion is for real, not only on the Russian side, but actually on the Western side," he said.

Putin has sought tangible economic rewards to buttress political gains such as full membership of the elite G8 group and a new deal with NATO, still Europe's premier security body.

A more cooperative US approach to Russia over the oil riches of the Caspian Sea is already apparent and Moscow now presents itself as an alternative strategic oil supplier.

"The ad[illegible] Russia is getting and will eventually get are opportunities, rather than hard cash," said Boris Makarenko, deputy director of Moscow's Centre for Political Technologies. "But they are absolutely vital for the modernization through which Russia is going right now."

Britain's Tony Blair won plaudits in the United States for his unquestioning support for US President George W. Bush, at the cost of the "poodle" jibe at home that singer George Michael put to caustic effect in his hit single "Shoot the Dog."

But, says Francois Heisbourg, director of the Paris-based Foundation for Strategic Research: "On the big issues important to the British, like the Kyoto convention (on climate change), the International Criminal Court (for war criminals), and more generally the creation of a multilateral international system, the Americans clearly take no account of British interests."

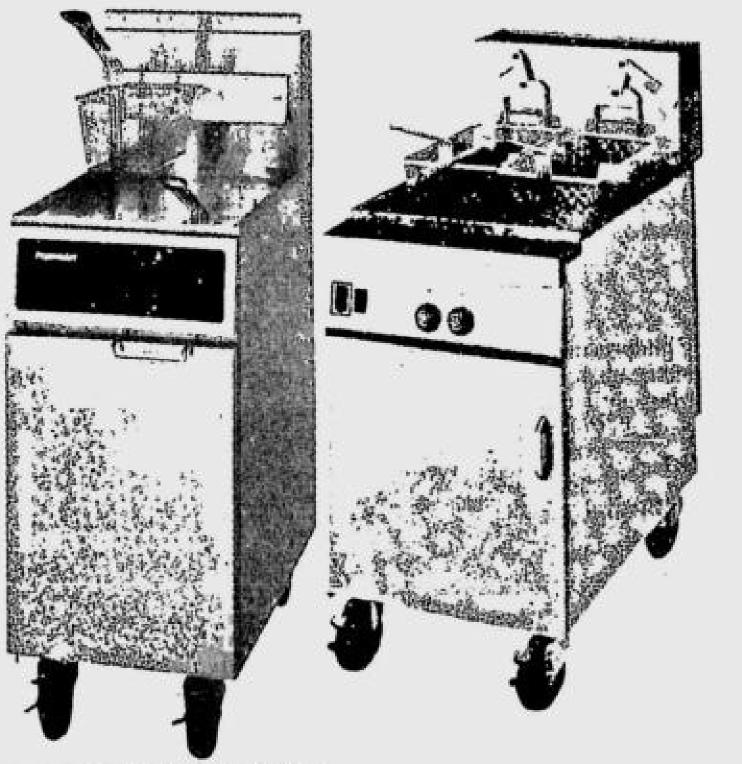
Also down, but not out is NATO. Once an integral part of US security thinking it was sidestepped as too cumbersome, Washington instead cherry picking a "coalition of the willing" for the war in Afghanistan.

"The way the US behaved when consulting in the weeks after September 11 was a revelation for certain countries well integrated into NATO, which hadn't realized just how marginal NATO had become in US strategic thinking," Heisbourg said.

[illegible] it [illegible] portant role in European security: witness US support for the planned further enlargement into former Communist eastern Europe this November.

Russia and Britain aside, Washington's ruling conservatives are deeply disappointed with their Cold War-era allies in Europe. "There's a perception that Europe isn't prepared to stand full with us in the war on terrorism," said Gordon of the Brookings Institution.

"Moscow on the other hand is solid, and its rather ironic that...since Sept 11 it's the Russians who are the prime partner, and possibly energy partner and counter-terrorism partner, much more than the West Europeans." *Reuters*



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The art of Flamenco

Editor's Note: Diplomatic Pouch presents the views of accredited Ambassadors to Manila on subjects they deem significant toward enhancing the ties that bind the global family.

DIPLOMATIC POUCH

Tomás Rodríguez-Pantoja
Spanish Ambassador

FLAMENCO is a popular, non- written music that has been passed on orally from generation to generation, in spite of the lack of a musical education of its performers. It could be probably said that the source of the flamenco's mysterious appeal reflects just a way of thinking, different perhaps, but extraordinarily natural and intuitive. Because of its intensity and the richness of its content, it has been the font of inspiration for European composers such as Liszt, Rimsky-Korsakov, Debussy, Bizet, Ravel, Falla, Albéniz, as well as many writers.

Within the remarkable diversity of theoretical views on the origin of Flamenco, pure speculation and even sheer fantasy have often proven to be serviceable resources. All we can say with certainty, however, is that flamenco song and dance reflect elements of the discrete cultures that coexisted in 15th-century Andalusia, at the time of the arrival of the Gypsies in Spain. To this admixture of cultures—Andalusian, Arabic and Jewish—the Gypsies brought cultural forms of their own from many points of origin and Flamenco is the result of this process of reciprocal influence, a process initiated and modified over time by the Gypsies themselves. It is impossible to determine the specific contribution of each racial or cultural component.

Flamenco song: The cante

The essence and root of all Flamenco is the Gypsy *cante jondo*, specifically the so-called modal or primary cantes, which evolved along separate lines and were gradually transformed through contact with other musical forms that the Gypsies encountered in Andalusia. Each singer's highly personal treatment created stylized variations on each of these principal modes, as well as within their subcategories. The cante has always been the centerpiece of the Gypsies' communal encounters. In time, the setting of these gatherings shifted to public premises called *tabancos*, where, at the end of a day's labors, acquaintances and relatives would come together to rest and to enjoy friendships.

Gypsy cante employs atonal intervals as a means of modulation. The singer, or *cantaor*, releases his full-throated song at the top of his voice, pulling it up from the depths of his body, pressuring the cante and grappling with it until he masters and softens it, turning it melodic through sheer feeling and inner resolve. This is what puts the voice through the infinite nuances one hears between two notes in flamenco singing and it is precisely this remarkable characteristic that has always elicited the greatest astonishment and admiration among musicians and students of Flamenco. Another trait of the cante is the nearly obsessive repetition of a single note in the melody, usually underpinned by a higher or lower tone. Following the violent initial attack, the voice gradually descends, seeking the predominant note, which will, in turn, be shaped and reshaped by successive *tercios*, as the short, simple lines of the lyrics are called. Listeners unaccustomed to Flamenco are at first struck by the cante's seeming lack of harmony, rhythm and metrical control. As the melody surges forward, however, the listener gradually begins to perceive its richness and depth, which little by little engages and captivates until it reaches down deep, setting off a wide range of emotional responses.

Flamenco song elicits shouts and expressions of encouragement to incite the singers. This is what is known as *jaleo*, which derives from an ancient eastern custom that the Gypsies observed in conjunction with the songs they heard sung among Spanish Jews, or Sephardim, who commonly practiced something akin to this *jaleo*. In fact, the Hebrew word *jalel* means "to encourage."

The guitar

Early cantes were performed without musical accompaniment. Listeners would gather around the *cantaor*, keeping time for him either by rhythmic hand clapping (*palmas*) or by rapping their knuckles on a table. The guitar, incorporated later, was adapted to the cante by taking the *palmas* as its rhythmic cue and providing simple, tonally limited support for the *cantaor*. As the players (*tocaores*) came to understand their instrument better, transitional elements were gradually added. The guitar is limited to establishing the pitch and accompanying the cantaor only with chords, so that the singer will not stray from the key or miss the tempo. In vocally silent intervals the guitar introduces very simple melodic lines, called *falsetas*, that serve to embellish the silences and to give the *cantaor* fresh energy and inspiration with which to attack succeeding stanzas.

The measure is musically the same for all Flamenco. What varies is the rhythm, according to the location of the beat. This is the trait that has most intrigued great musicals and musicologists. Falla called it the "dissolving measure." The tempo is always the same, a 3/4 bar; but, when the accent is dislocated, a different rhythm is created, which disrupts the measure and the beat itself. This explains why flamenco music cannot be adapted to a conventional musical staff and why it remains a traditional art that thrives exclusively by oral transmission.

The dance

The dancers were once exclusively women. Their dances consisted of rhythmic movements of the body and arms, the feet scarcely moving. As men began to dance, they were apt to move their feet more, which led to the creation of the steps and tapping or stamping (*taconeo*) commonly seen in flamenco dance today. Sensuality is an important element of the display. With the upper body stiffly drawn up and the head slightly tilted back, the arms and hands move to exhibit the dancer's form, thus drawing the spectator's fascinated attention. The rhythmic support is provided by the guitar, *palmas*, and *pitos*, or percussive finger-snapping, a sound introduced by the Gypsies to replace the sticks or castanets commonly used in traditional Spanish dances.

Just as in the case of the cante, flamenco dance is a medium for expressing deep feelings. For this reason, the dancer's inspiration is essential. More important than purely aesthetic or choreographic considerations are the performer's spontaneous improvisations, which in turn yield those ineffable moments of the *bailaor*'s or *bailaora*'s rapture and, as a result, elevate flamenco dancing to a high artistic plane. Instinct and emotions take precedence over technique and intellect; thus, that inexplicably haunting moment, the advent of the *duende*, cannot be rehearsed, anticipated or faked.

Iraq not a pushover like Taliban, Baghdad tells US

AMMAN—Iraq said on Friday the United States would not be able to topple President Saddam Hussein the same way it overthrew Afghanistan's Taliban, as Washington demanded Iraq to disarm "now" and ruled out any talks.

The United States ignored calls for a new UN Security Council resolution to approve any American military action against Iraq while key ally British Prime Minister Tony Blair faced opposition from his own party to a US-led attack.

"The United States' position is that the Iraqi regime needs to abide by its obligations—there is no room for negotiations or discussion—they need to do so and do so now," White House spokesperson Scott McClellan told reporters with US President George W. Bush on his August vacation.

McClellan repeated US insistence that Iraq carry out commitments made after the 1991 Gulf War to disarm.

In a sign of rising tension, US jets attacked an anti-aircraft missile site in a "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq in response to what the US military said were repeated Iraqi attempts to shoot down US and British jets patrolling the zone. It was the eighth raid in less than two weeks.

But Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan said Washington knew it could not overthrow Saddam the same way it ousted the Taliban. "We don't want to compare the two; Iraq is not Afghanistan," Ramadan told reporters in Beirut. "I believe that the US administration is convinced of that."

Iraqi opposition sources said they were planning to meet in September to elect a government backed by the United States.

But Ramadan said: "This talk about the Iraqi opposition is insignificant, something that doesn't merit a reply. It doesn't exist, and has no roots on the ground in Iraq."

The White House has pressed for preemptive action against Baghdad, brushing off a groundswell of unease among European allies, Muslim states and broader world public opinion.

"We owe it to our children, we owe it to our grandchildren to make sure that the world's worst leaders do not develop and deploy the world's worst weapons," Bush said in a fund-raising speech that did not mention Iraq specifically.

Two new polls out on Friday showed Americans less enthusiastic of a potential war with Iraq.

A poll for Time Magazine and CNN found that support for a US ground invasion of Iraq at 51 percent while 40 percent of those surveyed opposed such an action. Last December a similar poll found 70 percent in favor and 22 percent against.

A Newsweek poll showed 62 percent would support military force against Iraq but fewer than half, 49 percent, would support sending large numbers of ground troops into Iraq.

The Newsweek poll also showed a large majority believing it important for the United States to build support among European allies and in the United Nations before taking action. And 51 percent said Washington should win the support of Arab countries friendly to the United States.

Reuters

EU ministers discuss new Mideast plan

ELSINORE, Denmark—EU foreign ministers are to discuss a new Middle East plan on Saturday, notably aimed at setting up a Palestinian state by 2005, on the second day of talks overshadowed by war clouds over Iraq.

Danish Foreign Minister Per Stig Moeller, whose country currently holds the EU presidency, hopes to persuade his EU counterparts to back the "road map," which he will then take to the region in a three-country trip from Monday.

"Although the situation on the ground remains extremely difficult, we have over the past weeks been able to register some progress on matters such as security and reform issues," he wrote in a letter to his counterparts.

"This provides a small glimmer of hope," he added.

The ministers' first day of talks Friday, in Hamlet's hometown of Elsinore north of Copenhagen, was focused on EU enlargement, although from the first the Middle East and current sabre-rattling over Iraq have clouded the agenda.

On Saturday the ministers, along with foreign policy chief Javier Solana, will discuss the three-phase plan which will then be taken to a meeting in New York in mid-September to be attended by the US, Russia and the United Nations.

"We will be trying to move the process forwards, which to my mind is very important," Solana told reporters.

According to a copy of the plan seen by AFP, the first stage would involve negotiations this autumn, leading before the Palestinian elections next January to a security agreement allowing the withdrawal of Israeli forces from re-occupied Palestinian areas.

The second stage of the process "starts after the Palestinian election in January 2003 and ends with the conclusion of an agreement on the creation of a Palestinian state with provisional borders by August 2003."

The third phase of the plan, after August 2003, would involve a final phase of negotiations aimed at the formal creation of a full Palestinian state "with limited arms" by 2005, according to the Danish presidency document.

At the same time peace talks would be launched between Israel, Syria and Lebanon, the plan suggests.

To facilitate the accord, the Danish plan calls for "a public statement in Arabic by the Palestinian leadership, restating Israel's right to exist and calling for the respect of the Jewish faith."

AFP

Deadlocked Earth Summit in tense weekend

JOHANNESBURG—The Earth Summit headed for a tense weekend, mired in discord on how to save the world's natural resources and eradicate poverty while thousands of activists prepared for a march to demand action.

With little more than 48 hours left before heads of state and government mustered in Johannesburg, the summit was deadlocked late Friday over 14 issues in a 71-page "Plan of Implementation," pitting haves against have-nots and the United States against the European Union (EU).

Holding their first meeting since the 10-day summit began, ministers decided to hand the thorniest issues to mediators, a scenario for intense, late-night haggling among the world's power blocs.

Early drumbeats in a looming transatlantic trade war did nothing to help any mood for a compromise.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) gave the EU the go-ahead to slap the US with a record four billion dollars in sanctions for the tax breaks that Washington gives to major exporters.

. The United States has been cast as the "bad boy" of the summit due to its refusal to back a series of time-bound proposals to clean up the Earth.

US President George W. Bush is snubbing the summit but 109 other heads of state and government will start arriving on Sunday for a three-day meeting that will climax the marathon gathering.

Indonesian chief negotiator Emil Salim said that the 14 contested points had become "political issues." "If this summit fails, then the United Nations fails," he said.

British Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott warned: "If we fail here, things would unravel on a scale that we have not seen before in international negotiations." "That would be tragic for the whole world and most of all for those who are in poverty and despair," he told the Independent newspaper of London.

Danish Environment Minister Hans Christian Schmidt, whose country currently chairs the EU, said: "We must be dedicated to results . . . especially on time-bound targets like sanitation, renewable energy."

The Europeans are pushing for a target of halving the number of people without access to decent sanitation by 2015 and to increase use of renewable energy sources such as windmills and solar power to 15 percent of the total by 2010.

AFP

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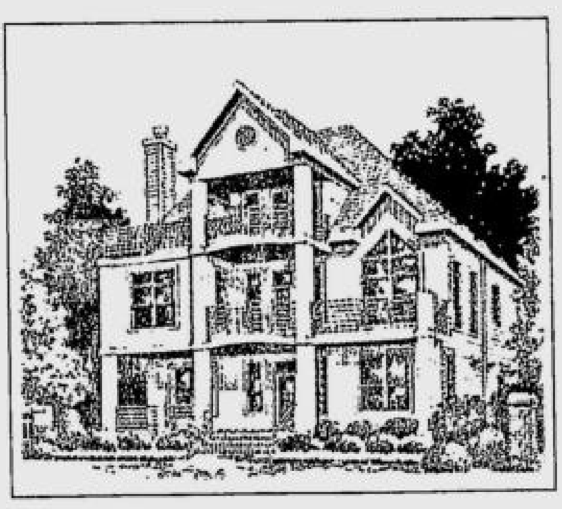

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September 29-
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December 14, 2002

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January 25 p.m.
- Festive Meeting with Families
January 26 a.m.
- Closing Mass

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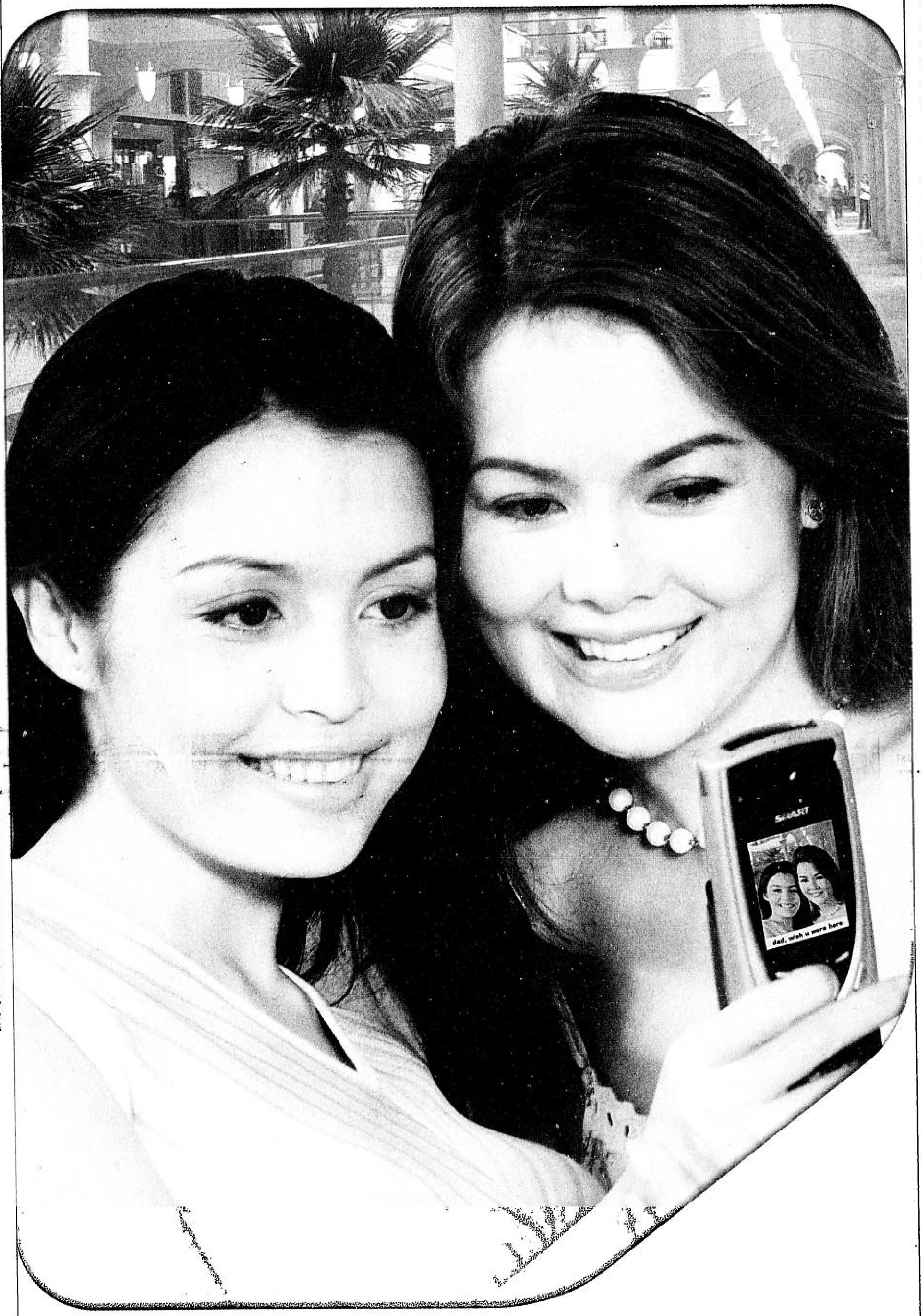
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SMART MMS now presents a whole new means of being forewarned on the traffic situation. SMART MMS Traffic Shots gives you digital snapshots from up to 20 strategic points across Metro Manila, all at the convenience of your own celfone! Using your SMART MMS-enabled celfone, you can quickly access SMART MMS Traffic Shots at a few clicks of your celfone. If you're in a rush to make it to a luncheon in the area of Ayala Avenue and Buendia, you can find out how clogged the lanes might be by keying in MTRAF BUENDEDSA and send to 311. To learn more about how to use SMART's new traffic-awareness service through your MMS-ready SMART GSM celfone, key in MTRAF HELP and send to 311.

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63 Indons die in refugee camps

JAKARTA—Up to 63 Indonesian illegal workers and their children have died from illness in refugee camps in the past month after they fled Malaysia, with 13 dying overnight, local relief workers said yesterday.

They said the situation was a national disaster for 40,000 workers stranded in camps around the Indonesian town of Nunukan, near the border with Malaysia's Sabah state, as more workers streamed in each day to avoid tough new Malaysian labor laws.

"Since the middle of last night until just now, 13 people have died," Ade Rostina, a coordinator for non-governmental organizations trying to help the workers, said by phone.

She said she feared the toll would rise, and added: "This is a national disaster. There is even one camp near a garbage dump where illegal workers are sleeping with maggots."

According to Rostina and another relief worker, a total of 63 people had died in the past month from a range of illnesses such as diarrhea. Rostina said this included at least a dozen babies and a similar number of older children.

A government official put the death toll at 27.

The returnees in Nunukan are taking shelter in tents and government buildings and are the latest in a wave of deportations after a Malaysian crackdown on an estimated 600,000 undocumented workers who also include Filipinos.

Kasmir Foret, who heads a local government team handling the crisis, said the death toll in the camps was 27 since the middle of July.

He said that there were enough camps in Nunukan—located some 1,700 kilometers northeast of Jakarta—to deal with the workers, and that 10 medical centers had been set up.

"Medicine is being given out free until today . . ." Foret said by phone from Nunukan. "After that, for those who can't afford it, it will be free, but those who can, have to pay."

He estimated that 25,000 workers were stuck in the camps, and said most of them wanted to process proper documents and return to Malaysia.

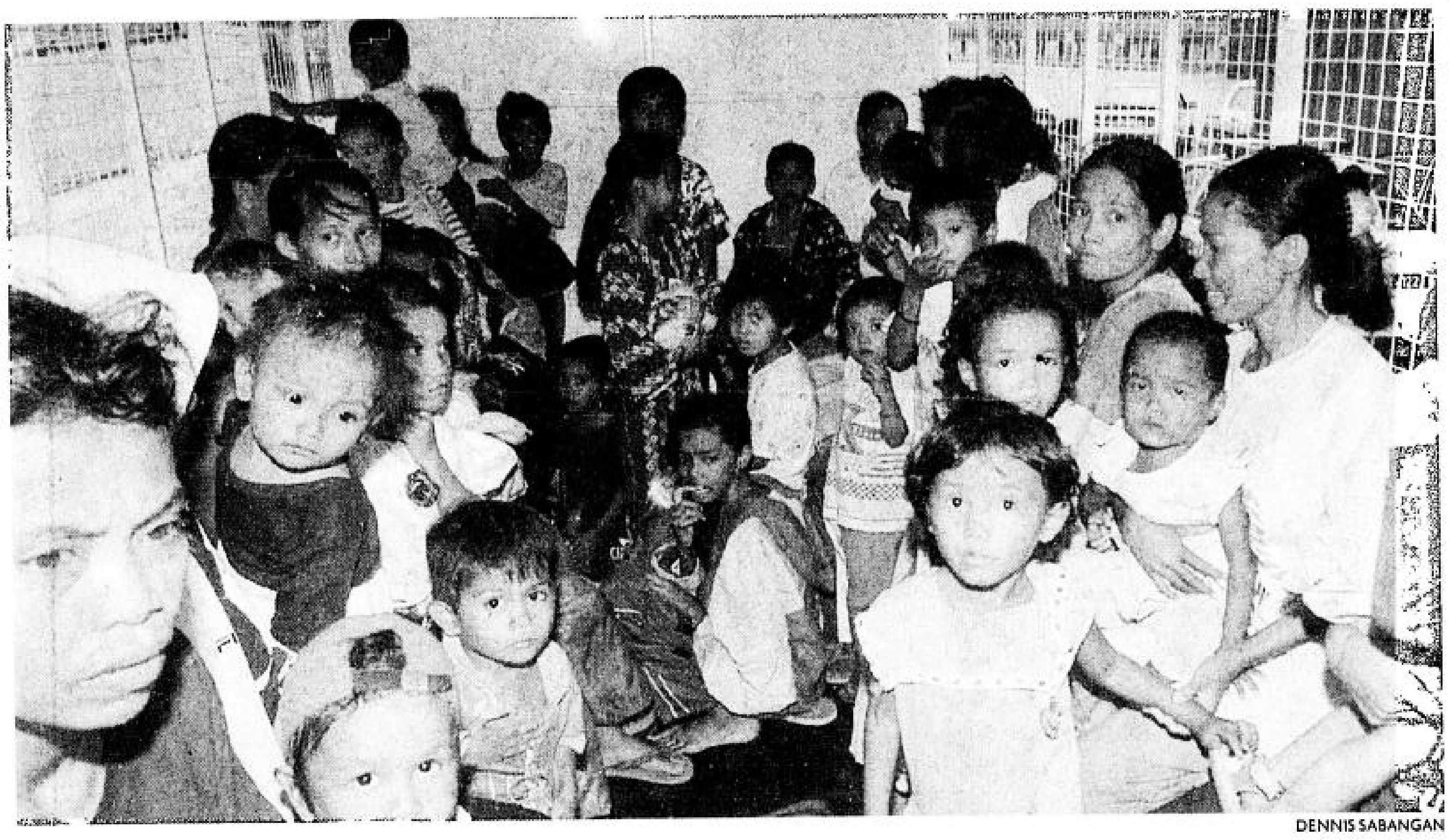
Workers who wanted to return to their hometowns across the vast Indonesian archipelago were stuck in Nunukan because of limited transport and funds.

The fate of workers returning across other parts of Indonesia's long and porous borders with Malaysia was unclear, although the local media have focused most attention on Nunukan.

Relief workers were quoted as saying that thousands more workers were expected to cross from Sabah in the coming days.

Food shortages were a problem, the relief workers added.

Reuters



DENNIS SABANGAN

DEPORTEES are transported to Karamunting Port in Sandakan, Malaysia, to board a Philippine Navy ship BRP Bacolod.

Inspiring humanitarian efforts produce heroes down south

From page A1

a firetruck to regularly supply the processing centers with potable water, while the Tawi-Tawi Electric Cooperative provided free additional lighting installations at the site.

At the heart of the volunteer effort were the Bongao residents themselves, Soliman said in praise of local village officials (*kagawads*) and "their own children" who helped man the centers by cooking meals for the weary—and sometimes wounded—new arrivals.

Quoting one Bongao official, Soliman said the deportees "should not be considered a burden or a problem by those receiving them. They are a fresh source of well-proven skills and manpower from their previous jobs in Sabah."

"And I think the spirit of Bongao has caught on," she said, referring to other donations and pledges streaming from around the country.

Among those pledging to help the Department of Social Welfare and Development are private entities that include MinCode, Mindanao Business Council, Tabang Mindanao, and the Philippine Business for Social Progress.

The DSWD, she said, recently received a call from a group of farmers in Baguio who intend to donate part of their harvest of cabbage and *sayote*.

Soliman said these Baguio folk only wanted to reciprocate the relief assistance they received during the killer earthquake that hit Luzon in 1991.

"They chose cabbage and *sayote* because these don't rot easily during shipping," she said.

And then there was the boy, Mark Lance Due, who gave P300 to the President.

"We only got his name on the card. No address, no age. I guess his parents didn't want to a make a big deal out of it," said the secretary, now holding the P300.

Soliman said that while the Malaysian government is herding out illegal aliens of different Asian nationalities, Filipinos seem to look more pitiful compared to the others when the deportations are covered by the media.

This is largely because other nationals pouring out from Malaysia, like Indonesians, can cross the border by land and take many routes, she said.

Filipinos, on the other hand, are not as dispersed and inconspicuous since their only way out is the sea. Arriving in cramped vessels, they end up crowding the home port by the thousands.

She stressed that Filipinos are not alone with tales of beastly treatment at Malaysian immigration holding areas.

Navy to the rescue

At the forefront of the humanitarian efforts to ease the plight of what had become the Filipino "boat people" were the flesh-and-blood heroes of the Navy, who rescued the refugees from unlighted and overloaded fishing boats shortly after the crackdown of illegal immigrants in Sabah began.

Aboard the Navy vessel BRP 551 Dagupan City on Thursday evening, Capt. Danny Cortez, to lift his hapless passengers' spirits, held a singing contest.

DSWD volunteer workers on board soothed the most emotionally shaken, offering stress debriefings. They were trained for such harrowing events.

The Navy effort began while the Philippines slept. Past midnight on Aug. 1, Capt. Alexander Pama, keeping vigil over the southern Sulu Sea's border with Malaysia on board the PS22 Sultan Kudarat, spied a small fishing boat. Because it was unlit, he thought it was a smugglers' vessel.

Instead, his searchlight met the terror-filled gazes of 173 boat people crammed tighter than sardines into the 30-passenger wooden tub Jamilla. Fearing for the refugees' safety in even the slightest squall, he transferred them onto the Sultan Kudarat, where some mothers quickly strung up *malongs* for makeshift infants' hammocks. A friend Pama called on his cell phone heard children's voices. "Yes," he confirmed, "but now they're playing tag and we're on our toes. They could fall overboard," he said.

Sailing to Zamboanga, his food problem was solved when fishermen, seeing his bedraggled human cargo, gave him three vats of fish. A seaman was assigned to a half-crazed male to guard him in Sick Bay because he attempted to jump overboard.

Commodore Ernesto de Leon, commander of Naval Forces South, already had a load of problems before Pama came across the boat people. The Abu Sayyaf, rampant smuggling, other serious peace and order problems were all part of the commodore's workday in Mindanao.

"No, this isn't a problem," he said of the Navy's mercy missions to beat the Malaysian government-imposed Aug. 24 deadline. "This is an opportunity for us to serve. We're putting our heart into it so we can render excellent service."

On his own initiative, Vice Adm. Victorino S. Hingco, flag officer in command of the Philippine Navy, contacted the Department of Foreign Affairs to ask for proper clearances from Malaysia for more Navy runs.

He said: "The problem is there. It is real. They're Filipinos. If the Navy is looking at an overloaded boat, what do we do? What happens if they have an accident?"

In the cash-strapped Navy, P1 million for 50,000 liters of fuel per vessel to and from Sandakan, Malaysia, is a fortune. "We'll worry about that later," he said.

A total of 3,663 deportees have been ferried by the Navy from Sandakan, Taganak in the Turtle Islands and Mapun Island in Tawi-Tawi.

On Capt. Eriberto Suria's watch on the BRP 551 Bacolod, two babies died before they could leave Sandakan. An ABS-CBN television crew recorded heart-rending images of the mothers weeping inconsolably over tiny bundles swaddled in *batik*.

Captain Suria, standing by, brushed away his own tears. DSWD workers arranged for burial on Malaysian soil, Islam dictating their dead should be buried in 24 hours.

Department of Health doctors, onboard ship and ashore, applied dextrose to a good number of children. Other youngsters had upper respiratory infections from sleeping on concrete floors in prison. In such close quarters, the ailment of one became the affliction of all the other children.

Social workers

Eight volunteer social workers, with barely any pocket money, clambered aboard ships on short notice. They were Barbangsa Jalaidi, Gregorio Buenavista, Leah Dunghaylunsod, Utuhudian Heptiva, Arubi Nawali, Fatma Jaafar, Romelito Romasa, and Fatra Abdulgani.

Community organizers served hot meals on board, started the processing procedure to determine where among the four processing centers on land—Tawi-Tawi, Jolo, Basilan and Zamboanga—the refugees were to land. They held feel-good programs and socialization activities on board. This, apart from self-appointed duties as "burial facilitators" and "stress relievers."

Chair Purificacion Quisumbing of the Commission Human Rights says, "Let's worry about the rhetoric later. For now, we are plotting strategies to deal not just with food but also, who we can get to deal with psychological trauma."

The former official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and director of the UN Centre for Human Rights in New York has contacted the local Unicef, "the UN's focal point for human rights issues."

While the Philippines is a signatory to all major treaties on human rights, Quisumbing, who has a doctorate in law, says that "Malaysia has ratified only one treaty: the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is the only document with legal force. We must remind them that they have committed themselves to protect children's rights without discrimination as to race."

Her team of regional investigators is in Bongao, "though sorely hamstrung by a lack of funds," to document human rights violations by our neighbor.

Local officials

The island of Bongao, in Tawi-Tawi, and Mayor Que had received refugees from Sabah as early as February, aided in no small way by Congresswoman Soraya Jaafar, providing food, shelter and medical attention for the wave after wave of boat people.

When Pama arrived on the peaceful island of Mapun with his first boatload, Rep. Jaafar called him, surprised that another island of Tawi-Tawi had begun to receive refugees. Mayor Tan of Mapun offered what hospitality, food and shelter he could give, and the services of his district hospital where a refugee boy was born. DSWD community workers organized cooking and serving brigades among the refugees, and nurses and doctors of the DOH offered systematic medical attention, mostly to children.

After listening on the phone to Pama's report—they had not met before—the congresswoman coordinated the loading of 250 sacks of rice, 300 cartons of noodles, nine boxes of medicines, and four boxes of canned stuff on a Navy ship from Zamboanga to Mapun.

On Navy voyages to Sandakan, the lady was again the first line of support, mobilizing the local citizenry in Bongao to send food and medicines aboard in readiness for the deportees.

A prominent American lady who after 30 years in residence sometimes thinks she, too, is a Filipino, e-mailed friends: "These people of valor and honor give us a sense of what the rest of us should be doing. We live in the absence of such integrity, but when we see it, we are mesmerized."

Malaysia . . .

From page A1

Lumpur, said Malaysia would also allow a Philippine team to inspect its detention centers. Once the team was satisfied that Filipino detainees were not being mistreated, the deportations would resume.

Soliman said Philippine authorities had estimated the number of still-to-be deported Filipinos from Sabah "from a high of 80,000 to a low of 30,000."

The enormity of these figures "is part of the reason a mission is being sent to Sabah," she said.

According to a report in the Borneo Post, 319 Filipinos, 168 Indonesians, and 18 Indians, Vietnamese and Pakistanis were still being held in Malaysian detention camps in Menggatal, Sandakan and Tawau.

The Ruma Puti (white house) camp in Sandakan is situated beside a police station. It is fenced with red tin sheets about 6 feet tall, and rimmed with barbed wire.

Long-standing ally

The President refused to denounce Malaysia for the maltreatment of thousands of Filipinos deported from Sabah over the past several months, saying that the country was the Philippines' long-standing ally in achieving security, peace and development in Mindanao.

She urged lawmakers and politicians to stop "grandstanding" about reviving the Philippines' claim on Sabah in retaliation to the inhuman deportations.

"The Philippines' claim to Sabah must be firmly de-linked from the issue of the deportees," she said. "We should not taint our actions with grandstanding or diplomatic adventurism. This is not the way to resolve bilateral problems between long-standing friends."

She also said the problem of the deportees "must be viewed from the overall spirit of goodwill, amity and mutual respect that has characterized our relations with Malaysia."

More deportees

At least 400 more undocumented Filipinos are scheduled to be transported today from Sandakan in Sabah to Bongao in Tawi-Tawi on board Philippine Coast Guard vessels and the Navy's BRP Bacolod City 550.

It was not clear at press time if they would be affected by the Malaysian government's announcement of a "short break" in the expulsion of illegal immigrants.

It will take the Navy ship six hours to reach Bongao, and the Coast Guard vessels, 14 hours.

In a briefing at Camp Crame, the President urged local government officials to welcome the deportees in their towns and cities "to ease geographical congestion."

She said Interior Secretary Joey Lina would draw up the mechanics of accommodation, which she ordered local government units to support.

Ms Macapagal also directed Lina to heighten the police and military alert in areas where "potential problems of law and order may arise" following the exodus of thousands of Filipinos from Sabah.

So far, the deportees number around 80,000. But this may balloon to 150,000 if Malaysian authorities intensify their crackdown on undocumented Filipinos, Lina said.

Great tragedy

Ms Macapagal, who flew to Bongao Thursday to welcome 1,450 deportees from Sabah, described the situation as a "great tragedy."

"I understand the emotions generated among our people because of children having died in detention centers (in Malaysia), the canings that are happening, and other controversial events that are being covered profusely in the media," she said.

"(But) there are also those who are trying to exploit the situation to serve their selfish ends, to erode our relations with Malaysia, or to pursue political or terrorist ends inimical to the common interests of both nations."

Still, she asked civic and media groups to help provide the deportees food, medicine, clothing and shelter.

"Now is the time for our nation to come together for a humanitarian cause," she said. "I call upon each and everyone to extend whatever assistance you can. We did this in the (1991) Mount Pinatubo disaster and we can do it again."

The President said Malaysia had helped the Philippines forge peace with Muslim secessionists in Mindanao, interdict pirates and other criminals on common seas, and boost trade and investment in the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asean Growth Area (BIMP-Eaga).

"What we need is a pragmatic, focused, effective response to this problem, operationally, administratively, diplomatically," she said.

Program of action

Outlining her program of action, the President said she had ordered:

- The National Disaster Coordinating Center to lead efforts to secure the safety and welfare of the deportees.
- The Armed Forces and Philippine National Police to be on "heightened alert" in areas where problems concerning law and order might arise.
- The LGUs in Basilan, Tawi-Tawi, Sulu and Zamboanga to accommodate the deportees.
- The Department of Interior and Local Government to map out the deportees' reintegration.
- The Department of Foreign Affairs to sustain "diplomatic initiatives" so that DOH doctors and medical workers could check on Filipinos still in Malaysian detention centers.
- The DFA and the Department of Labor and Employment to "have a clear picture of who and where the undocumented Filipinos are (in Sabah), and how (their stay there) can be legitimized."

UN report

Soliman told the INQUIRER that part of Mahathir's response to the President was his citing a UN Human Rights Commission report in denying the maltreatment of undocumented aliens in his country.

But Mahathir "welcomed" a visit by Philippine officials to Sabah's detention camps "to see for themselves," Soliman said.

She said the mission that would fly to Sabah would ask for a copy of the UN report that Mahathir cited, to determine what period it covered.

"Their general tone was that the issue can be resolved," Soliman said.

She said she was with the presidential convoy when Ms Macapagal called Mahathir on her cell phone from Surigao City at around 3 p.m. Friday.

This disclosure appears to contradict Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye's statement late Friday that the President phoned the Malaysian leader that night in Malacañang, in the presence of some Cabinet members and aides.

Soliman said Ms Macapagal was en route to the airport after addressing the Mindanao Business Conference in Surigao, when she called Mahathir.

The convoy had to come to a halt during the phone conversation, which took about 15 minutes, she said, adding that the President shared parts of it with her when they were on the plane back to Manila.

Soliman also reported that the Department of Social Welfare and Development had processed 12,273 Filipino deportees from Sabah since January, mainly facilitating their return to their places of origin in the Philippines.

Of these, 289 turned out to have hailed from as far as the Ilocos, Tarlac and La Union. Ninety-four were returned to the Visayas, while most were led back to various parts of Mindanao.

Adopt a family

Lina said he would meet with ARMM mayors and Gov. Parouk Hussin to discuss the towns and cities that would temporarily host the deportees.

He said he would tap civic organizations like the Jaycees and Rotary Clubs in launching an "adopt a family" program "so we can ease the pain and the difficulties of the deportees, and so they can start anew."

Both Lina and PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. admitted that there might be a need to raise the alert level in some areas in Mindanao.

"There's a possibility of crimes being committed when you have people coming over to a new place and they don't have the resources to provide for their daily needs," Lina said.

"This is migration in another form," added Ebdane. "So we now have additional Filipinos who are not employed. It might be a source of concern (for peace and order)."

But Gerry Albert Corpuz, information chief of the militant fisherfolk group Pamalakaya, expressed dismay over the "tin cup diplomacy" purportedly being employed by government officials in dealing with the deportation crisis.

"It is not the interest of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration to deliver justice to thousands of Filipino migrants maltreated and deported by Malaysian authorities," Corpuz said.

He added: "Rather than attend to her own people's ultimate cry for truth and justice, President Arroyo is merely concerned about how to appease Mahathir and the rest of the biggies in Malaysian politics."

Guingona

Opposition Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta chided Vice President and former Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. for not putting up contingency measures to ensure an orderly deportation of Filipinos from Sabah. ***With reports from Dennisonde Selena Baling in Sandakan; Cynthia D. Balana in Manila***

CEBU DOCTORS' HOSPITAL

OSMEÑA BOULEVARD, CEBU CITY

30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

MESSAGES

I wish to greet the medical staff and administration of Cebu Doctors' Hospital as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary with the theme, "Visions of the Future: Beyond Providing Excellent Service."

On this special occasion, let me congratulate you for doing a good job of providing quality medical service to our countrymen. I am certain that your establishment 30 years ago was a welcome development to our kababayans in Cebu City and in the nearby areas because they will have greater access to quality health services, especially in times of emergency.

May your success in safeguarding the health of your patients be your inspiration as you carry on with your mission to cure the sick. I also urge you to remain steadfast and supportive of our government's health sector reforms. This can be your most valuable contribution to our quest for national development.

I wish that your institution would remain an indespensable partner of the government in protecting the health and welfare of our people.

Happy anniversary and more power to all of you!

GMArroyo

GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
President, Republic of the Philippines

My warmest greetings and congratulations to the Cebu Doctors' Hospital (CDH) on its 30th anniversary celebration on August 20, 2002.

The Cebu Doctors' Hospital is already an institution of excellence in health care and patient-centered services. Its 30 years of quality care and dedicated services is already the realization of a vision.

Your theme "Visions of the Future: Beyond Providing Excellent Service," is a strong commitment of globally competitive service that CDH provides making it a landmark of excellence in the medical profession and facilities for Cebu and the entire country.

We Filipinos deserve no less than the same quality of health care and services advanced and modern countries provide for their people. Today we strive to achieve the highest level of health care delivery with excellence and affordability. It is also our government's thrust to uplift the quality of life and improve the health for all of us.

Again I congratulate the administration and staff of CDH including its medical professionals, doctors and nurses for their expertise and commitment in maintaining compassionate and holistic approach to health care.

I wish you more success in all your endeavors in the future. Thank you very much and more power!

Cebu Capitol, Cebu City, June 28, 2002.

PABLO P. GARCIA
Governor, Province of Cebu

Let me extend my sincere appreciation to the Cebu Doctors' Hospital for your continued commitment in providing quality medical and health services to the Cebuano community.

Your chosen theme, "Visions of the Future: Beyond Providing Excellent Service", is not just timely but reminds us to give more than what is expected from us. Please accept my gratitude for your support to the City of Cebu as among its partners in community service particularly in the health care sector. Your contribution in the society is very critical in achieving our common goal of uplifting the lives of Cebuanos. It is my sincere hope that we continue to work together in providing quality service to the Cebuano community.

Lastly, let me wish you a blissful 30th anniversary celebration on August 20, 2002.

TROsa

TOMAS R. OSMEÑA
Mayor, City of Cebu

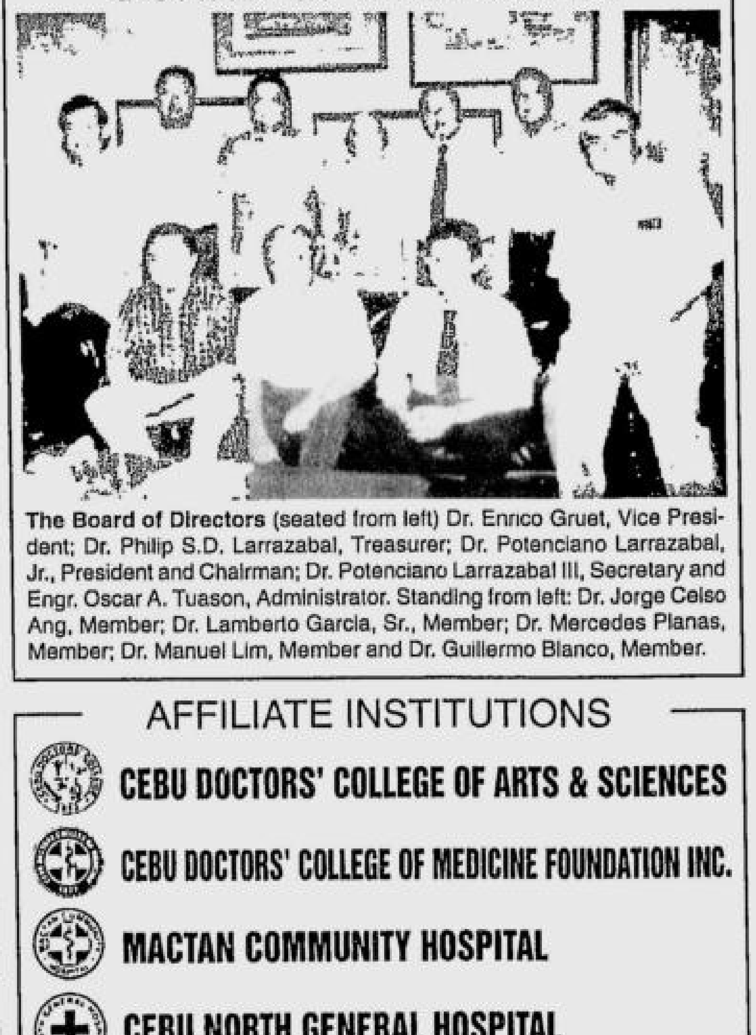
Health care organizations especially hospitals are facing pressures on all fronts: the need for modern technology, the need to upgrade wage and salary administration and the need to meet patient expectations are some of the numerous problems we face. In effect, the management of hospitals has increasingly become more complicated under today's backdrop characterized by economic crisis.

This is the challenge that we have to face. The need to have visionary leaders with relevant management approaches has become imperative. This challenging situation may seem threatening and disruptive but if we can focus on the broader possibilities of innovation and change nothing is impossible. We can envision a future that goes beyond excellent service, that which is humane based on the christian precepts of trust, love and commitment relative to the delivery of health care services to our people.

Congratulations and good luck!!!

POTENCIANO V. LARRAZABAL, JR., M.D.
Medical Director
President & Chairman of the Board

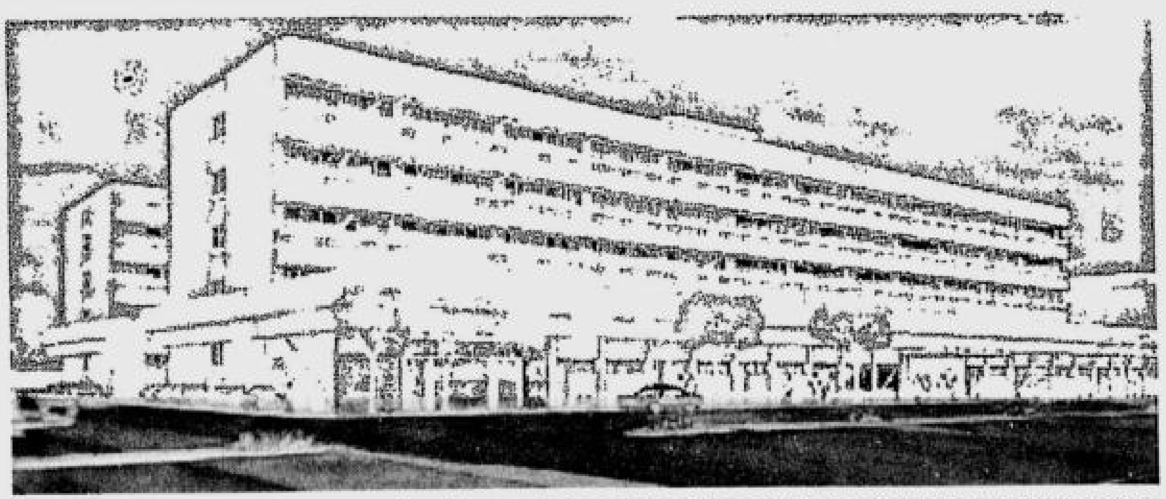
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Board of Directors (seated from left) Dr. Enrico Gruet, Vice President; Dr. Philip S.D. Larrazabal, Treasurer; Dr. Potenciano Larrazabal, Jr., President and Chairman; Dr. Potenciano Larrazabal III, Secretary and Engr. Oscar A. Tuason, Administrator. Standing from left: Dr. Jorge Celso Ang, Member; Dr. Lamberto Garcia, Sr., Member; Dr. Mercedes Planas, Member; Dr. Manuel Lim, Member and Dr. Guillermo Blanco, Member.

AFFILIATE INSTITUTIONS

CEBU DOCTORS' COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
CEBU DOCTORS' COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOUNDATION INC.
MACTAN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
CEBU NORTH GENERAL HOSPITAL
SAN CARLOS DOCTORS' HOSPITAL



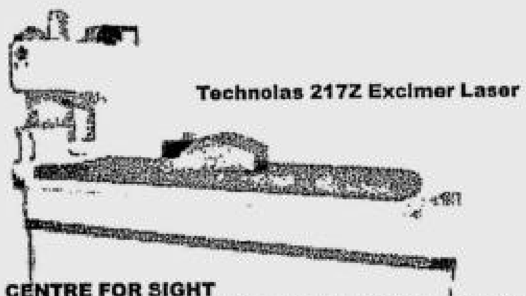
In response to contemporary health needs in a dynamic society, the Cebu Doctors' Hospital, was inaugurated on August 20, 1972. This modern medical center and a private stock corporation is a Tertiary Institution with 330 bed capacity.

Committed to deliver quality health care, the Cebu Doctors' Hospital stands as a visible institution where compassionate, competent and dedicated health care professionals render caring care within the preventive, curative, restorative and rehabilitative perspectives.

Cebu Doctors' Hospital is also the nucleus of a comprehensive medical education complex that serves as one of the medico-educational training and research centers of the country.

Behind Cebu Doctors' Hospital's success, is Dr. Potenciano V. Larrazabal, Jr., who has been the Chairman of the Board, President and Medical Director ever since the hospital opened its doors to the public. Evidently, with his dynamism, Cebu Doctors' Hospital is continuously providing quality comprehensive health care services; promoting excellence through total formation, education and training of medical and paramedical professionals.

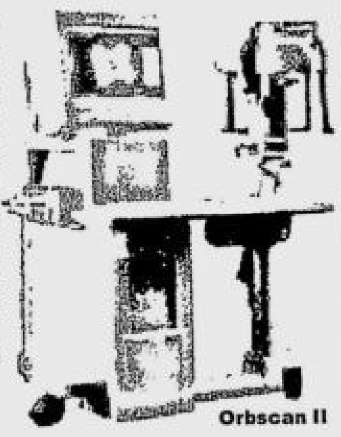
Today, as the hospital celebrates its 30 years of quality and dedicated service to the community, it renews its commitment to its mission of providing the best expertise in responding to the total health needs of its clientele.



Technolas 217Z Excimer Laser

CENTRE FOR SIGHT

ZYOPTIX is the latest breakthrough of the most innovative eye care technology and advanced personalized vision correction system is now in CEBU. This fourth generation laser machine is an advanced level of refractive eye care with customized LASIK and eye tracker, which ultimately offers an even more accurate procedure than a traditional laser vision correction. ZYOPTIX, a cutting-edge technology from Bausch and Lomb, provides excellent visual outcomes including safety and efficacy, tissue prevention, and visual performance. With its increasing global popularity and its breakthrough successes in the Asia-Pacific regions, myopic, hyperopic and astigmatic patients are ensured that they get the best out of this highly advance technology.

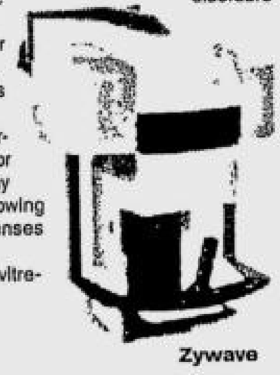


Orbscan II

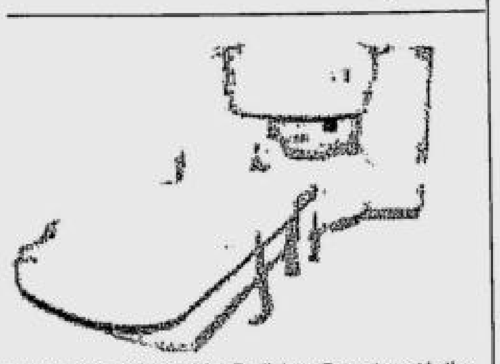
The Cebu Doctors' Department of Ophthalmology offers a broad range of specialized services in eye care. The department is an academic-affiliated, subspecialty-oriented resource for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the eye, orbit, and neuro-ophthalmic disorders. Advanced medical and surgical therapy of all conditions affecting the anterior segment, posterior segment, ocular adnexa, orbit and optic nerve is the primary focus.

Services:

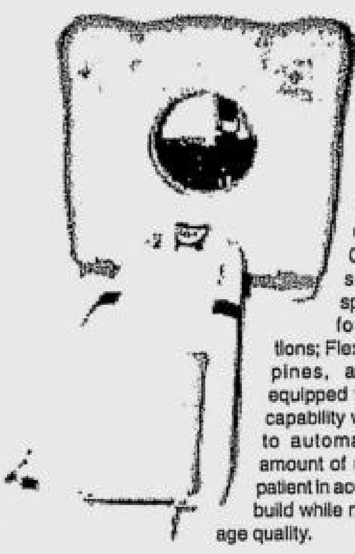
- Cataract surgery including Phaco-emulsification
- Corneal surgery, corneal transplantation
- LASIK or PRK (laser vision correction)
- Glaucoma consultation and treatment including argon and diode laser procedures, antimetabolite filtration surgery and shunt.
- Treatment of neuro-ophthalmic disorders
- Orbit and oculoplastic surgery
- Evaluation and repair of ocular injuries
- Complete evaluation for patients with uveitis
- Fluorescein photography and argon, krypton and dye lasers for treatment of diabetic retinopathy
- Treatment of complications following implantation of intra-ocular lenses during cataract surgery
- Laser treatment for retinal and vitreous problems
- Vitrectomy
- Emergency Eye Care



Zywave

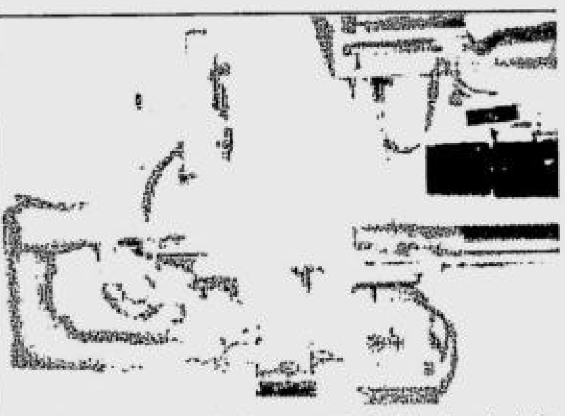


One of the newest acquisitions of the Radiology Department is the **Hitachi Airis II MRI unit.** The latest in MRI permanent magnet technology, it boasts of patient-friendly open-type configuration. The 0.3 Tesla MRI unit is capable not only of routine head and neck, spine, abdominal, thoracic and musculoskeletal imaging but can also perform angiographic studies, dynamic imaging and MR flouroscopy

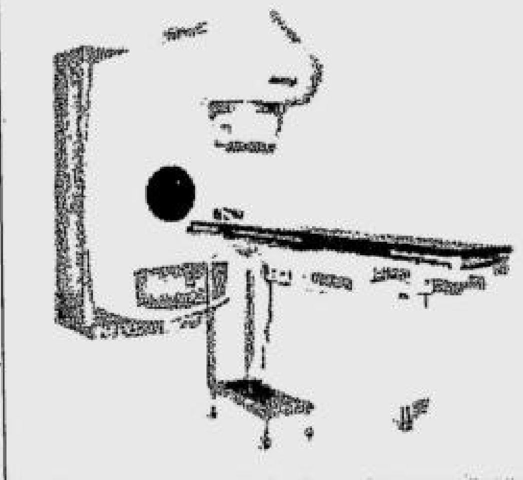


Shimadzu SCT-7800TX Premium Subsecond Spiral CT Scanner

Capabilities: Subsecond scan time - scanning speed increased by 25% for faster CT examinations; Flex mA - first in the Philippines, a CT-Scan machine equipped with Flex mA. Flex mA capability will enable the machine to automatically give enough amount of radiation dosage to the patient in accordance to patient body build while maintaining superior image quality.



The Cebu Cardiovascular Center was the first heart center in the Philippines to own the state-of-the-art **Mennen Medical Horizon 9000WS** on June 8, 1998, the computerized cardiac system for accurate and efficient diagnosis of cardiac diseases. Recently, it has also acquired a digital filmless cardiac catheterization machine to provide its patients cutting-edge technology in invasive interventional cardiology.



The primary goal of radiation therapy is to ensure that the total radiation dose prescribed by the radiation oncologist is delivered with highest accuracy to the target volume and the surrounding normal tissues are spared of unnecessary doses. For many diseases the required accuracy is not known; for others, the outcome of treatment depends upon tumor doses that do not vary by ±5% about the optimum.

The Cebu Doctors' Hospital - Radiation Therapy Center has always been consistent through its more than two years of radiotherapy service in the delivery of accurate tumor doses to its patients. As a matter of fact, the joint Postal Dose Quality Audit Program of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and World Health Organization through the Bureau of Health Devices and Technology of the Department of Health reported a 0.0% deviation of CDH-RTC reference dose relative to the IAEA mean dose out of the acceptable limit of ±5%. CDH-RTC is the only radiotherapy facility in the Philippines to have attained this unprecedented honor.

ANESTHESIA

CEBU CARDIOVASCULAR CENTER
Cardiac Catheterization
Cardiovascular Ultrasound
Coronary Angioplasty
Coronary ByPass Graft
EKG (Electrocardiography)
EEG (Electroencephalogram)
Electrophysiologic Studies
Heart Valve Replacement
Major Blood vessel surgeries
Pacemaker Implantation
Treadmill Stress Tests

INTENSIVE CARE UNITS
Acute Stroke Unit
Coronary Care Unit
Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
Renal Intensive Care (Hemodialysis)
Hema-Onco Unit

MEDICINE
Allergology and Immunology
Cardiology
Pulmonology
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Gastroenterology
Hematology
Infectious Diseases
Nephrology
Neurology
Oncology
Psychiatry
Rheumatology

NUCLEAR MEDICINE
Radioactive Iodine Therapy
Whole Body Bone Scan
Thyroid Evaluation/Uptake
Renal/Renogram
Liver/Spleen Imaging
Coronary Artery Disease Evaluation

OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
Fetal Monitoring by Cardiotocography
Ultrasonolgy
Color Doppler
Laparoscopy
Hysteroscopy

PEDIATRICS
Allergology and Immunology
Cardiology
Hematology-Oncology
Infectious Diseases
Intensive Care Unit
Neopathology
Nephrology
Neurology
Oral Rehydration
Pulmonology

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY
Alcon Universal II Vitrectomy
Phacoemulsification Machine

Storz Millenium Microsurgical System
- 2 units

Leica M841 Ophthalmologic
Operating Microscope

Zeis OPMI CS 4 Operating Microscope

Humphrey Computerized
VF Analyzer

Zeis 532 Diode Laser

Zeis Yag Laser

Topcon TRC50EX Fundus Camera

OcuLight SLx 810 nm Infrareddiode laser

CENTRE FOR SIGHT
Bausch and Lomb Zywave
- wavefront analysis

Bausch and Lomb Orbscan II
- corneal mapping system

Bausch and Lomb Technolas 217 Z
- flying spot excimer laser

SURGERY
General Surgery
Laparoscopic Surgery
Orthopedics
Urology
ENT/Head and Neck
Neurosurgery
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Pediatric Surgery
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

RADIATION THERAPY
Linear Accelerator
Simulator
Computerized Treatment Planning

RADIOLOGIC SERVICES
CT Scan
Bone Sensitometer
General X-Ray
Mammography
Radio Fluroscospy
Ultrasound
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
Interventional Radiology

REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy
Electromyography and
Nerve Conduction Velocity

EMERGENCY ROOM SERVICES

OUTPATIENT AND
IN-PATIENT LABORATORY SERVICES

CEBU LITHOTRIPTER CENTER

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Administrator : Engr. Oscar A. Tuason
Anesthesia : Dr. Ma. Cynthia Hortelano
Clinical Laboratory : Dr. Teresita Limchu
Medicine : Dr. Ophelia Buot
Obstetrics : Dr. Imelda Layno
Ophthalmology : Dr. Potenciano Larrazabal III
Pathology : Dr. Alma Malilong
Pediatrics : Dr. Guillermo Blanco
Radiology : Dr. Aurelio Singuidas
Rehabilitation : Dr. Renald Ramiro
Surgery : Dr. Jorge Celso Ang

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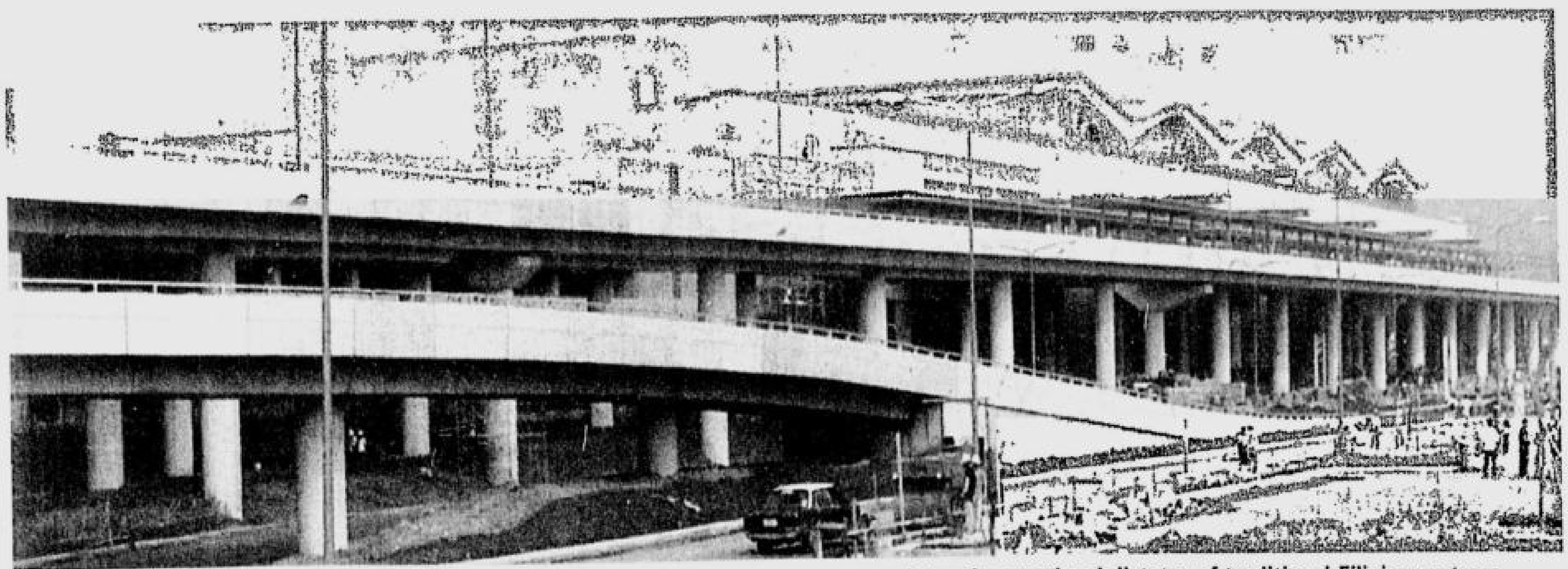

WORLD-CLASS Naia Terminal 3 façade: Internationally competitive structure accommodates the emotional dictates of traditional Filipino customs.

Angara: Correct flaws in contract

By Cynthia D. Balana

IN THE SENATE, opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara yesterday urged the government to clearly state its position on the status of the Piatco contract.

Angara said that if the contract was defective, the government and Piatco should return to the negotiation table and seek ways to correct its flaws.

"If the contract is void, then the government is not compelled to pay $400 million or its discount equivalent," he said.

According to Angara, the government was in estoppel as then Transportation and Communications Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez and National Economic and Development Authority Director General Dante Canlas claimed during the Commission on Appointment hearings that the agreement was above board.

An estoppel is a bar which prevents one from asserting a claim that contradicts an earlier statement.

Angara pointed to the claim of Secretary Gloria Tan Climaco that the Cheng Family, Piatco's local partner, had no choice but to accept payment at a discounted rate raises strong and serious suspicions regarding the legality of the contract.

The senator warned that a direct government takeover of Piatco would entail serious legal and policy implications.

"A takeover is against the principle of non-impairment of contracts enshrined in the Constitution," Angara pointed out.

"As the enforcer of rights and dispenses of justice, government should honor, instead of impairing contracts," Angara said.

GMA: Piatco's Naia Terminal 3 contract onerous

From page A1

In the House, Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay asked Speaker Jose de Venecia to order an investigation.

"By ruling as onerous the Piatco concession agreement—found valid by no less than two House committees—she had insulted the dignity of 220 congressmen," Pichay said.

'Onerous' provisions

The "onerous changes" in the Piatco contract, which according to the President, were made during the Estrada administration are as follows:

- Increase of the passenger terminal fee from the original P500 to $20, which is much higher than the fees charged by Asean countries;
- Giving Piatco monopoly of airport operation in Luzon;
- Giving Piatco monopoly of all operations within terminal 3 including aircraft repair and maintenance, cargo handling and catering;
- Removing the government's right to regulate public utility fees;
- Making the government a direct debt guarantor of Piatco, in violation of the build-operate-transfer law; and
- Setting the liquidated damages to be paid by the government to Piatco much higher than those to be paid by Piatco to the government in case of default.

The original contract awarded to Piatco in 1997 set the project cost at only $350 million but it has ballooned to $657 million.

Committee to evaluate

Ms Macapagal said she has created a Cabinet committee headed by Justice Secretary Hernando Perez to evaluate Fraport's proposed "amicable settlement" giving the government the opportunity to buy out Naia 3 for $400 million.

She said Climaco, Neda secretary general Dante Canlas, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon and Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza would sit in the committee.

Under the scheme agreed upon by Fraport and the government represented by Climaco, Fraport will advance the $400-million loan payable in 15 years with a minimum grace period of three to five years at an interest rate of 6.2 to 6.5 percent per annum.

To cover the loan, Climaco had said during the Senate blue ribbon committee hearing last Thursday that the government intends to bid out Naia 3.

Ms Macapagal yesterday said the proposal "shall be subject to the approval of all the shareholders of Piatco," referring to Fraport's local partners, the Cheng family, which has opposed the buyout.

"The committee shall be guided, among others, by the strong commitment of the government toward privatization," she went on.

But what is the policy on privatization? Congressmen demanded to know from President Macapagal as they continued to assail the planned government takeover of the Naia 3 project as recommended by Climaco.

"The President should clarify the government policy on privatization and attracting foreign investors because all (Climaco's) actions are the exact opposite of these two important policies," said Negros Oriental Rep. Jacinto V. Paras, chair of the House committee on transportation and communications.

Pichay, chair of the defense committee, said the government should not interfere in a "corporate squabble" and should not negate its privatization policy.

Bulacan Rep. Willie Villarama, who was Ms Macapagal's chief of staff when she was Vice President, insisted that "Climaco's scheme" was more disadvantageous to government because it would have to borrow $400 million plus interest to operate Naia 3 when it stands to earn P700 million from the Piatco contract.

Villarama said under the Piatco contract, the government makes no guarantees or loans because Piatco is the borrower. It also takes the business risk while government is guaranteed P700 million.

But in Climaco's scheme, he said government will borrow the $400 million to buy out the Germans, pay 6.5-percent interest for the loan and assume the risk while Fraport still gets to operate the terminal.

The congressmen kept the pressure up on Climaco, whom Rep. Prospero Nograles described as a "superwoman" with no accountability.

Paras noted that under Climaco's proposal, the government will buy out the $400-million investment of the German firm Fraport and will bid the project anew to raise that amount.

"Why do that when this project was subjected to a bidding under the BOT law? Under what law will they bid it out again?" Paras said.

"So the bottom line here is they just want to kick out the Chengs and they want to install somebody," Paras said.

Paras said the German buy-out was Climaco's idea for the benefit of her "secret partners."

"That is really the mystery here," Paras said.

Pichay said that if the Germans want out, they should sell to another investor instead of the government.

"It's a dangerous precedent because every time a foreign partner wants out, it will run to government to get its money back," Pichay said.

Pichay said that if the government wants to take over private enterprises, it should take over independent power producers contracts which were "more burdensome to the Filipinos."

"Considering the fact that the takeover of Naia 3 will not benefit the people, this recommendation is suspect," Pichay said.

7 big projects

Villarama wondered why Climaco was given authority over big projects that, he said, are within the jurisdiction of departments.

Villarama said that aside from Naia 3, Climaco was given jurisdiction over seven other big-ticket projects.

These are the Light rail Transit Line No. 3 project extension, the privatization of the Metro Manila Waterworks and Sewerage System, Batangas port phase 2 project, National Steel Corp., Metro Cebu Water District, Housing Securitization and Solid Waste Management.

In a memorandum dated Feb. 26, 2002, the President directed Climaco to "oversee the effective and timely implementation and completion" of the eight "strategic projects."

Villarama wondered why the President "does not seem to trust" her own Cabinet officials in implementing these projects.

Pichay pushed for an investigation to "determine for whom Climaco is fronting."

"Who is Secretary Tan-Climaco to bind the government to a $400-million loan fund from Fraport AG with which to buy the Germans out? Who is she to amend the 60-40 equity ratio of capital ownership by commissioning the Germans to manage an illegally expropriated private property?" Pichay said.

Pichay said Climaco has become a "one-stop shop that has arrogated unto itself the functions of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government."

But one congressman, Rep. Monico Puentebella of Bacolod City, expressed surprise at the "one chorus" of critical congressmen. He urged his colleagues to hear out Climaco's scheme before judging it down.

Puentebella said there was "something fishy" when a local partner with $20-million investment would question the decision of its foreign partner with its $400 million exposure.

German proposal

Climaco insisted it was the German state-owned Fraport which proposed to the government the takeover of Naia Terminal 3, and not the other way around, as Piatco's local partners had charged.

"The first time it was proposed to us was in July of this year . . . and my facial reaction, I wish you could have caught it, was something that was of shock," she told Palace reporters on Friday.

Climaco said she called up Piatco lawyer Eduardo Delos Angeles the same day to ask for a meeting, where she reportedly told him of Fraport's offer for a settlement with the government.

"In that meeting what he said to me was that he would try to convince his clients (the Chengs). He did not come back to us," Climaco said.

By that time, the government represented by Climaco had been negotiating for about eight months with the state-owned Fraport how to rectify the "onerous" Piatco contract.

Climaco said she was at first hesitant about the Fraport offer since the government does not want to give the impression that it is reversing its privatization policy.

"We don't want the international community to think that we're taking over this airport to the detriment of international investors coming in, more so when diplomatic relations (with Germany) are involved," she said.

Climaco said between July and the first week of August, Fraport unsuccessfully tried to buy out the Chengs for $20 million.

On Aug. 10, Climaco wrote Fraport saying that the government is "willing to consider your proposal for an amicable settlement between the government and Piatco."

She said the government finds merit in Fraport's solution to the Piatco debacle "in the sense that the onerous portions of the contract now become moot and irrelevant. At the same time we can rationalize the finances of Terminal 1, 2 and 3."

Justify costs

She said since January this year, she has been asking Piatco for a breakdown of the project cost to justify why the cost has ballooned to $657 million.

"They did not give us any information. All our numbers came from Fraport," she said.

She said aside from the $409 million Fraport has already shelled out, it is expected to shell out another $60 million to complete the airport's construction and another $100 million for the working capital and operating expenses.

In contrast, their local partners, the Chengs, have shelled out $16.5 million, and their other partners $30 million.

Conflict of interest

But Piatco's vice president and spokesperson Moises Tolentino demanded to know what the Chengs have done "against the country or even to Mrs. (sic) Gloria Tan Climaco personally to deserve this kind of Hitlerite expropriation of a legally and government-granted build-operate-transfer project?"

Tolentino said Piatco wants answers from Climaco over her alleged conflict of interest since Climaco claimed her actions had been cleared by chief presidential legal adviser Avelino Cruz. This is the same Cruz, who was with the Villaraza and Cruz law firm, the legal counsels of Asia's Emerging Dragon Corp., the loser in the Naia 3 bidding, Tolentino pointed out. He also said that Climaco's legal adviser comes from the same law firm.

Cardinal Sin, at 74, moves closer to retirement

From page A1

As has been the practice for the past four years, Villa San Miguel opened its doors to street children who joined the guests in partaking of native snacks.

The celebration ended with a fireworks display, which Sin viewed while seated at a second-floor balcony. Standing behind him was his widely rumored heir apparent, Manila Auxiliary Bishop Socrates Villegas.

Villegas, who serves as Sin's spokesperson, refused to answer when reporters asked him about Sin's retirement and possible successor.

Sin, who is undergoing dialysis, is one of the 16 children of Juan Sin, a native of China, and Maxima Reyes Lachica. He was ordained priest in 1954 and named archbishop of Manila in 1974.

Villegas, who was ordained bishop on Sin's 73rd birthday, chose the cardinal's 74th to launch his sixth book, "Jesus Our Peace."

The 193-page book contains his sermons and reflections on the priesthood, sexual misconduct among priests, and People Power I and II.

In his homily at a Mass celebrated at the Edsa Shrine, the 41-year-old Villegas related a recent discussion he had with other bishops on sex scandals involving priests.

The suggestion was raised that erring priests should seek psychiatric help, he said.

But one bishop dismissed the idea, saying: "The best way to help a priest who has fallen is not to bring him to psychologists or psychiatrists, but to bring him to a convento of a priest who is pious and holy."

Villegas, however, pointed out that the Filipino priesthood was running out of such holy men.

"We are running out of saints in our *conventos*, we are running out of saints in our rectories," he said. "That is why we are satisfied with the second-best—the psychologists and psychiatrists."

He said he wanted the abbeys "not only to be *bahay pari* (houses of priests), but also *bahay santo* (house of saints)."

"I pray that all priests will be holy, and maybe I will be holy with them," he said.

Villegas said the sex scandals involving priests in the United States were taking its toll on Filipino priests, some of whom have been accused of sexual misconduct.

"At this period in America, it is so unpleasant to be a priest, a bishop," he said, adding that it hurt all priests "when people suspect us, when people give us names . . . when people doubt our motives."

Villegas said his greatest difficulty was "seeing my brother priests carrying their cross heavily and not wanting me to carry that cross with them."

He said it gave him "sleepless nights at times to remember what my brother priests and I have to go through."

Reflecting on his priesthood, he said he did not know how long he would be a priest or a bishop.

"I do not know how long my life would be, but as I said last year, when I die or they kill me . . . I want to be remembered as the bishop who loved and died for his priests," he said. ***With a report from AFP***

PDI founder among 26 ad 'mavericks'

From page A1

"advertising mavericks" recognized last Thursday during the opening of advertising summit of the Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies (4As) of the Philippines. ***(See pictorial on Page B3.)***

It was the first time the 4As gave the award.

Apostol, who was described as "Philippine journalism's fearless inquirer and press freedom's foremost apostle," came out with the anti-Marcos Mr & Ms magazine, which became the forerunner of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. She later set up the tabloid Pinoy Times.

"Refusing to be comfortable in industry convention, these mavericks questioned and discovered surprising solutions," organizers of the advertising summit said of the awardees.

The other awardees are: Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala for his vision that turned "grass to glass;" Socorro Ramos, founder of National Bookstore, who made reading a national pastime; Eugenio Lopez, founder of ABS-CBN; Emily Abrera, the first female president of the multinational advertising agency McCann Erickson Phils. Inc.; Severo Alcantara, who rose from the ranks from being part-time messenger and janitor at Grant Advertising to become its majority stockholder.

Ben Aniceto, creator of radio programs like "Beinte Cuatro Oras," "Top Tunes on Parade" and "Radyo Patrol"; James Black, archivist of Procter and Gamble from 1965 to 1986; filmmaker Lino Brocka (deceased); Javier J. Calero, chair and CEO of J. Walter Thompson Philippines; Ben Chan, who succeeded in turning the lowly Bench T-shirts into a status symbol.

Rosie Chew, the "godmother" of the market research industry in the country; Freddie Garcia, the genius behind "TV Patrol" and Hoy Gising; Greg Garcia, one of the founders of Hemisphere-Leo Burnett; Tony Gloria, who discovered Sharon Cuneta, Dina Bonnevie, Aga Muhlach and Raymond Lauchengco and the creator of the production house Unitel.

Abby Jimenez, founder of Jimenez D'Arcy; her husband, Mon Jimenez, who made Jimenez and Partners into a multinational firm which eventually became Jimenez D' Arcy; Minda Lansang, managing director of Mind Share Phils.; Gerry de Leon (deceased), who directed the Filipino film classics "Ifugao," "Noli Me Tangere," "El Filibusterismo" and "Sisa;" Tony Mercado (deceased), who conceptualized and implemented the idea of profit sharing.

Louie Morales, managing director of Philippine Advertising Counselors Inc.; Yolanda Villanueva-Ong, founder and CEO of Campaigns & Grey; Herminio Ordoñez, recipient of the First Lifetime Achievement Award given to an advertising creative director by the Creative Guild of the Philippines; Johnny Santos, father of Nestlé Philippines; Tony Tan, who started Jollibee as an ice cream shop in 1975; and Pedro Teodoro (deceased), who established the first Filipino Advertising Agency in 1945.

Stranded . . .

From page A1

months in state imposed quarantine.

Panting and wagging her tail, Hokget was greeted by a phalanx of news media outside the Honolulu Airport's interisland terminal.

"I am very excited and very happy," said Kuo. "Without the concern of people around the world, it would not be possible for us to be here today."

Kuo adopted the dog at the request of its former owner, Capt. Chung Chen-po, a longtime friend. Chung was the senior officer of the tanker Insiko 1907 which was disabled by a fire on March 31.

Chung and most of his crew were rescued by the passing cruise ship Norwegian Star on April 2. But the dog and the remains of a crewman who died in the fire were left behind.

Hokget, whose plight made international headlines, was rescued on April 26 by the crew of a tugboat sent to tow the tanker to Honolulu from about 400 kilometers east of Johnston Atoll.

"I'm glad the quarantine is over and she gets to go home," said Dr. Becky Rhoades, a veterinarian and director of the Kauai Humane Society.

The dog made the trip to Honolulu in a ventilated bag seated next to Rhoades in the first-class passenger section of the Aloha Airlines flight.

"It was a good ride," said Rhoades. "She's a little scared but is doing great."

"I love this dog; she's a wonderful dog," said Rhoades, Hokget's caretaker for the past four months.

"The Kuos are lucky to get her. She will be a joy in their life."

A steady stream of local residents and tourists came to see the dog while it was under quarantine on Kauai, said Eve Holt, spokesperson for the Hawaiian Humane Society.

Kuo, who traveled to Kauai to visited Hokget five times during her quarantine, said he just wanted to take the dog home and calm her down.

"We just want to live quietly," he said.

Kuo turned down an offer to travel to Los Angeles to appear with Hokget on Jay Leno's "Tonight" show.

"If they want to talk to us, they can make arrangements to come here," he said.

Chung wants to come to Hawaii to thank everyone for helping rescue his dog, Kuo said, but it is unlikely he will want to take her back to Taiwan.

"But if he does, I may say no," Kuo said with a laugh. ***AP***

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Mine wastes spill into Zambales lake

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Mine wastes from two damaged dams and spillways of the Dizon Copper Silver Mines Inc. (DCSMI) in San Marcelino, Zambales, have spilled into the Mapanuepe Lake and eventually into the Sto. Tomas River, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources confirmed on Friday.

The lake and the river, although silted with lahar, remained as fishing grounds and irrigation sources for five Zambales towns.

The damage to the DCSMI's Bayarong tailings dam spillway was "alarming," the DENR said, while the dam and spillway of the Camalca wastes dam were "heavily damaged."

Leonardo Sibbaluca, DENR Central Luzon executive director, said the damage caused mine wastes to "progressively deposit" on the lake.

Each dam's catchment area spans 50 hectares. Both dams are located upstream of the Mapanuepe Lake.

The lake was formed after Mt. Pinatubo's lahar choked the channels of the Mapanuepe River, a tributary of Sto. Tomas River that drains directly from the volcano's watersheds, a report from the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said.

Residents said the lake swelled after the 1991 eruptions and submerged in 1992 some 300 houses, a market, a school and a church built by the DCSMI and its partner Benguet Corp. during the height of the mining operations in the 1980s.

That sunken village's only reminder is a white, now rusting, metal cross that juts above the water.

Aeta villages, like Sitio Labuan, are near the Bayarong Dam, where only a third of its spillway "remained intact."

About 2,000 families live near the mine site, located in an upland area some 30 kilometers east of the San Marcelino town proper, according to the Zambales Disaster Response Network.

In a memorandum to DENR Sec. Heherson Alvarez, Sibbaluca said the "wider and more extensive spill" came from the Camalca Dam.

This finding and other results of the Aug. 27 inspection by Sibbaluca and Mines and Geosciences Bureau officials were submitted to Alvarez on Friday.

The inspection report revealed that heavy rains impounded water on the dams and spillways, eroding these and eventually causing the mine wastes to leak to the lake below.

But the letter to the DCSMI and the memorandum to Alvarez did not mention if the mine tailings contained the toxic substance mercury.

Jaime Tongol, chief of the DCSMI team in charge of maintaining the complex after operations shut down in 1997, said the company used sulfide and lime, not mercury.

In the late 1980s, the DCSMI also denied reports of mercury spills that left farm animals dead and agricultural areas barren.

But the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, in several advisories to barangay officials since five years ago, had warned residents not to fish in the lake confirmed laced with "acids."

Referring to the mine tailings that reached the lake, Sibbaluca, in a letter to DCSMI officials, warned that "this unfortunate situation cannot be allowed to continue since the life and property of the people are affected."

Sibbaluca told company officials that there was a "clear violation" of pollution, environmental and mining laws.

In the letter on Aug. 30, he cited violations of six provisions of environmental laws and guidelines, including DCSMI's lease contract. These indicated that the company did not strongly comply with safety measures.

Sibbaluca ordered company officials to "immediately undertake appropriate engineering measures in repairing the damaged portion of all DCSMI infrastructures."

The company was also directed to submit an emergency plan, which includes the "mapping of communities most likely to be affected in worst-case scenario if the spillway collapses."

It was also instructed to do a regular monitoring of the facilities especially during the rainy season and submit decommissioning and rehabilitation plans.

Tongol said the company had tried to avert the damage by diverting the water flow. Heavy rains in the area had overtaken their work, he said.

He said his team had sandbagged the spillway's damaged portions. The conditions of the dams and the spillways have been monitored on a 24-hour basis since July, he said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Recall move vs Catanduanes governor ok'd

VIRAC, Catanduanes—The recall move initiated by the Catanduanes League of Mayors against Gov. Leandro Verceles received overwhelming votes from the preparatory recall assembly (PRA) held here.

The assembly—attended by mayors, vice-mayors and Sangguniang Bayan members—convened yesterday morning at the ABC Hall of the capitol to determine whether to abide by a resolution of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) Catanduanes chapter seeking the governor's ouster.

Eighty of the 132 assembly members attended the convention. The assembly gathered a majority of 78 votes in favor of the recall move, leaving only two votes against it.

Vice Gov. Cesar Sarmiento, who voted in favor of the recall, said their ultimate goal is to have another election for a better governor in Catanduanes.

"It's not that easy to institute a recall, but the province is now in ruins," Sarmiento said. He claimed that the governor's acts are motivated by vested interest. "Government funds just go to specific savings at his own discretion," he said.

Verceles, in an interview with the INQUIRER, said he was not surprised with the result of the PRA, saying that the votes cost P10,000 up to P30,000 each, courtesy of the SSS group, referring to Sarmiento, former governor Hector Sanchez and Rep. Joseph Santiago.

He claimed that the officials who voted for his recall are all his supporters and were just misled by his political enemies.

"I can't blame the people who voted for my recall because they are poor. It's just a question of money and that's the way it is in politics! But I will go after the veracity of the documents they will be submitting against me," he said.

In an earlier interview, he claimed that the real intention of the group is to take from him a foreign-assisted infrastructure project worth P1.8 billion, thus, all their claims are mere propaganda to get him out of the way.

"It's a simple power grab and I welcome it!" the governor said.

He said the project is now on its first phase and the government had already spent P700 million. *Ronnie Lorejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Baguio's oldest man is older than Baguio

LLORENTE EV ESPIRITU

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—This city's newest centenarian is also the country's oldest miner.

Mining engineer Felix Llorente turned 100 on June 15 and is seven years older than Baguio City. But his life reflects that of the city's, riding on the gold boom in the early 1900s and then moving on his own when the gold disappeared.

Llorente tends his poultry farm in Barangay Irisan here, the largest village in the city.

"From gold that is dug to gold that is hatched," Llorente summed up his life in Filipino.

Llorente's father is an American soldier named James Matthau.

He adopted the family name of his mother, a native of San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.

His mother died when she was 110 and his aunts, he claimed, reached almost the same ages.

After high school in Nueva Ecija, Llorente studied at the University of the Philippines in Manila. When his father stopped sending his allowance, he transferred to the Mapua Institute of Technology. It was in his boarding house that he met his wife, Purita, who died when she was 96.

He returned to Nueva Ecija to take care of his family (he has 10 children, four of whom have died) and later went back to finish school. In 1930, Llorente accompanied his teacher to Baguio and he never returned back to his home province.

"I was the first to settle in Irisan. The road (Naguilian Highway) was still a foot trail then and Kennon Road was just finished," he said. Irisan is now the most populous barangay in Baguio.

Llorente worked at the Demonstration Mines located above Kennon Road, the present site of the Loakan airport.

When Richard Lyle established the Irisan Lime Kilns, Llorente was accepted as its manager.

At this time, mining firms like the Benguet Corp., Itogon Suyoc Mines, Philex Mines, Black Mountain and many others have sprouted in Baguio and Benguet.

What took the Spaniards 300 years to conquer, the Americans mined in the Cordillera in less than a century. Now many of the mines in the region have been closed and few of the existing ones are struggling.

Benguet Corp., for example, has resorted to open pit mining to extract meager gold deposits.

Llorente stayed with the Irisan Lime Kiln until the outbreak of World War II. Llorente's memory of that war was so vivid that it took him the whole morning talking about it uninterrupted.

For one, he was made to kneel by a Japanese soldier and was moments away from being beheaded.

"The Japanese soldier told me this blade is bloody because it has beheaded many Filipinos. He made me kneel down and I saw him raise his sword when a shot rang out," he said.

It turned out that the former police chief of Baguio arrived just in time and shot and killed the Japanese.

After the incident, Llorente returned with his family to Nueva Ecija and went to Baguio again when the war was about to end.

Llorente was awarded the highest medal for civilians because he had been regularly providing Filipino soldiers and guerrillas vegetables and rice from his farm in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija.

Llorente and Lyle revived the Irisan Lime Kiln, which is now operated by the Itogon Suyoc Mines. Llorente also started the La Trinidad Lime Kiln in Benguet.

In 1960, movie actor Rogelio de la Rosa starred in a movie called "Irisan," partly based on Llorente's life. The movie also starred Ben Rubio and Lola Delgado and was directed by Manuel Silos. Llorente also had a cameo appearance in the movie.

In 1969, Llorente began the Irisan poultry farm, the only poultry farm in the city. The farm, now managed by his son David, produces five cases of eggs a day and its culls are popular for those who love *pinikpikan* (a native chicken dish).

Llorente still eats boiled vegetables and meat (except pork). He can still read newspapers. He walks around his compound every morning.

Accused in Javier murder denies sneaking out of jail

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—An accused in the murder of former Antique Gov. Evelio Javier, has denied reports that he sneaked out from the Antique Provincial Jail to help in the case of a grandson of co-accused former Assemblyman Arturo Pacificador.

"There's no truth to the reports. I have never left the jail premises," said Avelino Javellana, a lawyer, in a telephone interview with the INQUIRER.

The jail in the capital town of San Jose, Antique, is more than 90 kilometers south of Iloilo City.

Javellana reportedly came to the Iloilo City Police Office (ICPO) along General Luna St. at about 2 p.m. on Aug. 26 with Iloilo City-based lawyer Pascual "Junie" Espinosa Jr. The two lawyers were reportedly looking for Senior Insp. Alexis Relado.

On Aug. 23, Relado arrested Julius Ronald Pacificador, after the latter allegedly poked a Ruger 9-mm pistol at the police officer during a traffic altercation.

Julius Ronald is the son of Hamtic town Mayor Julius Pacificador who is the nephew of Arturo Pacificador.

Julius Ronald was released on Aug. 24 after posting bail of P92,000.

Relado said they filed a complaint before the Iloilo City Prosecutor's Office against Julius Ronald for grave threats.

Relado, deputy commander of the Intelligence Section of the ICPO, said his subordinates told him the two men left at around 5 p.m.

Relado said he did not see the lawyers but the one with Espinosa introduced himself as Javellana to his men.

Senior Insp. Dionisio Duco, Precinct 1 commander, said he recognized Espinosa but was not sure if the other person was Javellana. "He looked (like) Bob (Avelino's nickname) Javellana," said Duco.

Javellana said the report was "strange" because there was no chance to leave the jail without a court order. "How could I be there (in Iloilo City)?" He said he only knew about the case after a telephone conversation with Espinosa on Saturday.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach Espinosa and Antique Provincial Jail warden Leonardo Fangena for comment.

This was not the first time that Javellana was reportedly seen outside the jail premises without a court order.

In a three-page order dated June 5, Judge Rudy Castrojas, of the Antique Regional Trial Court Branch 12, admonished Javellana after the judge saw him at the SM City mall in Mandurriao District in Iloilo City on May 25 without a court order to leave the provincial jail.

Castrojas also fined then provincial warden Heracleo Severino P3,000 for indirect contempt for allowing Javellana to leave the provincial jail. He also warned Javellana that he would be detained at the provincial jail's main building if the offense was repeated.

Castrojas said he got unofficial reports that detainees Vicente Vegafria, and John Paloy, also accused in Javier's murder, were seen outside the jail. Many of the accused in Javier's killing have been detained at the jail for more than 16 years.

Javellana, Arturo Pacificador and 15 others are facing murder, frustrated murder and attempted murder charges for the killing of Javier and the wounding of several others on Feb. 11, 1986.

They are among the 140 "living out" inmates who stay in the shanties outside the main building of the provincial jail at Binirayan Hills in San Jose, Antique. The jail that has a capacity of 90 inmates houses more than 300 inmates.

ROUNDUP

More services for kids

LEGAZPI CITY—The Department of Social Welfare and Development here has assured the city, which has the most number of street children in the country, of more services for street children and other minors in especially difficult circumstances. Among the 831 children and 743 parents who were given food assistance, livelihood support, school supplies, value formation instructions, or formal education, a significant portion have enrolled in elementary and high schools. Many parents have also been trained in starting their own business and given credit assistance.
Roly Casim Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Outstanding Calapeños

CALAPAN CITY—The Calapan City government has launched its first-ever Gawad Tanglaw Calapeño (GTC) in the Holy Infant Academy Auditorium last week. GTC is instituted to hail noteworthy youths who, by their life and work, brought good to Calapan City and their fellow youths. Awarding rites will be on March 21, 2003, the 5th foundation day of the city. *Emilson Goco, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

World rondalla fest

LEGAZPI CITY—Dr. Ramon Santos of the National Commission for Culture and Arts said the Bicol Region, particularly Albay, has been chosen as the venue for the international music rondalla festival in recognition of the Bicolanos' rich musical environment that has produced some of the finest Filipino folk and classical music artists. The international artistic event is planned for February next year, to coincide with the National Arts Month celebrations.
Ronnie Lorejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

$50,000 for center

LEGAZPI CITY—The Philippine Geothermal Inc. (PGI), through the Unocal Foundation, has allocated $50,000 for the rehabilitation of the rural health unit (RHU) building in Tiwi, Albay. Ed Sevilla, PGI community affairs chief, hopes that the project will be completed next year. The local government of Albay is also expecting additional funds from the Unocal Foundation to finance the RHU equipment. The Tiwi health office can cater only to minor sickness. When completed, the RHU Building can accommodate at least 100 patients, especially from far-flung villages.
Ronnie Lorejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Narra seized

IROSIN, Sorsogon—Police operatives led by Sr. Insp. Raul Valeriano, municipal chief of police intercepted on Thursday alleged illegally cut narra lumbers in the hinterland of Sitio Callan, Barangay Bagsangan here. Responding on a report from municipal board member Yolanda Balaoro, police confiscated 26 pieces of narra flitches in different sizes at the land tenanted by a certain Estanislao Estrada but failed to arrest persons responsible for the illegal operation. The narra lumber were brought to the Irosin police station and will be turned over to DENR.
Emir Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Power cut-off

MALILIPOT, Albay—Business transaction and other office work have been hampered for almost two weeks now after the Albay Electric Cooperative (Aleco) disconnected the power supply of the municipal building due to its failure to pay its electric bills. The bills amounted to P90,000 for May to July. Mayor Herminio Bitara had to sign the disconnection notice on Aug. 20 after a series of demand letters. The INQUIRER learned that payments for the electric bills and other maintenance expenses of the municipal government come from the general funds under the office of the mayor, which have only P3,000 left.
Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Wanted criminal arrested

CAMP DANGWA, La Trinidad, Benguet—Police on Wednesday arrested in Bacnotan, La Union one of the most wanted criminals in the Cordillera. Judge Benito Galacgac of the regional trial court here issued the arrest warrant against Murphy As-il. Police said As-il is facing charges of frustrated murder and illegal possession of firearms at the La Trinidad RTC.
Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Student killed in shootout

BAGUIO CITY—A student here was killed in a shootout with policemen on Thursday night. Police identified the victim as Ryan Jeric Lopez, 21, a native of Pangasinan and a student of a local college. Reports said policemen were responding to a fight between two groups of college students on Caguioa Street here. Lopez, who was armed with a .22 cal. pistol, ran toward Brookside Road so policemen chased him. Lopez fired at them so they were forced to shoot him back, police said. Lopez succumbed to eight bullet wounds in the body. *Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Art scholarships

LEGAZPI CITY—Albay Gov. Al Francis Bichara called on young residents of the province who possess exceptional potentials in visual arts, music, dance, theater arts and creative writing, to avail of scholarships in the annual nationwide search for young art scholars. Bichara said Albay has a pool of gifted children who could easily qualify for the scholarship at the Philippine High School for the Arts in Los Baños, Laguna. Application forms are available at the PHSA, DepEd [illegible] offices and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.
Roly Casim Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

INQUIRER*Mindanao*

Editor **Jun Bandayrel** ◎ *Bureau Chief* **Nico A. Alconaba**

When defending the land becomes a crime

By Anthony S. Allada
Davao City

HE IS one of Southern Mindanao's ten most wanted persons. But his face looks too old and most unlikely to be included in posters displayed in public terminals and markets.

His name: Datu Guibang Apoga. Reward: P200,000. Crimes Committed: Multiple Murder. Area of Operation: Davao del Norte.

A summary of information provided by the Philippine National Police said Apoga is 60 years old, whose last known address is Sitio Nasayaran, Barangay Palma Gil in Talaingod, Davao del Norte.

Apoga is leader to some 15,000 Ata-Manobo *lumad* living in Talaingod, making him the number one enemy of logging firm C. Alcantara and Sons Inc. (Alsons). By waging a *pangayao* (tribal war) against those who encroach on their ancestral land, he was blamed for the killing of three Alsons workers and two civilians in 1994.

Since then, Apoga and members of his tribe have been in hiding, after they moved up to a Talaingod mountain, away from the police and military.

The INQUIRER, when it interviewed Apoga in 1995, had to ford rivers, conquer cliffs and mountains and risk native traps.

Then a leader, Apoga's photo now joins nine other faces of criminals wanted for multiple rape, murder and robbery. Supt. Paterno Orduña, chief for the Regional Intelligence and Investigation Division (RIID), said three of those in the "wanted poster" had been "neutralized."

But Ariel Casilao, Karapatan secretary-general, said Apoga's inclusion to the PNP's list of wanted persons made him look like an ordinary criminal.

Casilao said Apoga was a tribal leader whose only crime was to protect his people and their land.

Apoga was never a criminal but the PNP has blamed on him all the killings (during the pangayao in 1994) because he was the identified leader, he said.

Casilao added that Apoga never evaded authorities, his lumad brothers instead protected him from being arrested.

"He even planned to go downtown to express his disgust over Alsons but he was prevented by his people who fear that something might happen to him," Casilao said.

Karapatan even challenged the police and military to brave the Talaingod hinterlands and look for Apoga.

APOGA

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*UL RIFAMPICIN CAP 300MG	13.00	12.35
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*PHAREX CEFALEXIN CAP 250MG	11.00	10.45
*PHAREX CEFALEXIN CAP 500MG	17.40	16.50
*PHAREX CEFALEXIN DRP100MG 10ML	64.00	60.75
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*PHAREX CEFALEXIN SUSP 250MG 60ML	163.00	154.75
Erythromycin stearate		
*PHAREX ERYTHROMYCIN SUSP 200MG 60ML	109.00	103.50
*PHAREX ERYTHROMYCIN TAB 250MG	7.50	7.10
*PHAREX ERYTHROMYCIN TAB 500MG	13.50	12.75
Cloxacillin Na.		
*PHAREX CLOXACILLIN CAP 500MG	17.20	16.35
*PHAREX CLOXACILLIN CAP 250MG	11.00	10.50
*PHAREX CLOXACILLIN PDR 125MG 60ML	109.00	103.50
(Tab)Co - trimoxazole: Sulfamethoxazole (SMZ) 400 or 800mg, trimethoprim(TM) 80 or 160mg. (Susp) SMZ 200mg, TM 40mg.		
*PHAREX C-MOXAZOLE SUSP 200MG 60ML	88.00	83.60
*PHAREX C-MOXAZOLE TAB 400MG	8.00	7.60
*PHAREX C-MOXAZOLE TAB 800MG	14.75	14.00
Chloramphenicol		
*PHAREX C - PHENICOL CAP 500MG	10.20	9.65
*PHAREX C - PHENICOL SUSP 125MG 60ML	80.00	76.00
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Dexamethasone		
*UL DEXAMETHASONE TAB	1.20	1.10
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Mefenamic Acid		
* UL MEFENAMIC ACID 500MG	4.95	4.70
* PHAREX MEFENAMIC TAB 500MG	4.90	4.65
Paracetamol		
PHAREX PARACETAMOL TAB 500MG	1.00	0.95
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Metronidazole		
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BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE WH 200	20.75	19.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE 72	11.50	10.90
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE 108	16.50	15.65
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE 200	28.50	27.00
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE BL 36	6.00	5.70
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BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE BL 108	12.50	11.85
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE BL 200	20.75	19.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE MGR 72	9.25	8.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE MGR 108	12.50	11.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE MGR 200	20.75	19.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE PK 72	9.25	8.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE PK 108	12.50	11.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE PK 200	20.75	19.75
BABYFLO BUDS GENTLE 36	6.50	6.15
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GROW POWDER MILK CHOCO 1800G	687.50	653.00
GROW POWDER MILK VNILLA 1 KG	397.25	377.50
GROW POWDER MILK VNILLA 1800G	687.50	653.00
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Crossroads

DUGONG MINDANAW

Jay Robert C. Fernandez

We want to know what the Mindanaoan youngblood, middle-aged blood or high blood are thinking about what's happening in Mindanao and the rest of the country.—Ed.

FOUR years ago, I found myself praised by my colleagues for writing an essay on the nobility of the teaching profession. It was my second piece published in the "Dugong Mindanaw" section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

I remember writing "I will be a teacher until my brain can think no more." I didn't expect I'd someday rethink about it.

I recollect on what has happened to my life since then. True to my word, I am still a teacher. Whether it is a personal choice or because of an unconscious compulsion to prove my word, I have stayed in the profession many consider a noble vocation.

I decided to follow the track of a teacher right after graduation in March 1997. Many consider this a destiny because academicians dominate my mother's lineage. Despite the fact that it was not among my choices of profession, I managed to get through the challenges of teaching: handling delinquent students, preparing lesson plans, spending most of the day talking. In my case, I also had to deal with my socio-phobic tendency.

Fortunate

As I wrote in that essay, I pursued graduate studies at Ateneo de Manila University a year later. I was fortunate to have been granted a scholarship by the Department of Science and Technology. Two years later, I proudly returned to my home university with my MS diploma.

I would say my enthusiasm intensified—I felt I didn't have control of my brain cells working to put theories into practice. I was grateful for how my mentors reared me that I wanted to do the same to my apprentices. The feelings of fulfillment and benevolence were enormous.

It did not take long before I was given the greatest challenge of my life. I was appointed director of the department where I belonged. It was a daunting task, but my eagerness to serve overwhelmed my apprehensions. Young that I was, I never denied the fact that I needed guidance especially in managing people. I knew the job does not only require diligence but skills as well.

I made it through—so far. I went through false accusations from administrators, scrutiny from accrediting institutions, and criticisms from colleagues and students. I went through more downs than ups. But the hardships paid off. I have initiated reforms that made our academic programs among the best in the country.

Blessed

As I look at my achievements now, I feel blessed to have been used by God to make a difference in our department. Things would have been perfect hadn't I realized that I do not get what I really deserve. St. Francis prayed, " . . . teach me Lord to labor and ask not for reward."

I also believe in the value of service, but if it is survival that is at stake, asking for something, especially what is due you, is somehow justified. As I anticipate my future, I know I wouldn't be able to sustain my needs and my future family with what I financially get from the university. The industry has offered lucrative opportunities, but still, I love my job too much. Yet I must admit we do not live by fulfillment alone.

I have not yet decided on seeking greener pastures, though I have seriously given this some liberal but logical contemplation. For as long as I can sustain my needs, I'd continue to be the teacher that I am. For how long, I do not know.

But should that day come for me to realize that I have to be practical, I know and I believe the university will never feel abandoned. I have started a legacy that made my home department the way it is now. I trust that my colleagues will continue living it. Perhaps I was meant to be the spark than the flame. Its light will continue to guide young individuals as they start a new generation of humanity.

I am 26 years old now. I may not be able to continue live up to my promise, I know that the young teacher that I was four years ago—determined, enthusiastic and full of dreams—still thrives in m

Jay Robert Fernande ctor of the Xavier University Comput ayan de Oro City.

SUERTRES 7 8 5

SIX DIGIT (In exact order)
8 4 8 5 0 1

6/42 Luzon (In exact order)
30 23 25 29 03 06

6/42 Vis-Min
14 11 01 28 37 32

'BIGGER TEAMS CAN BE BEATEN'

Menk trey lifts Selecta-RP to heights

By June Navarro

THE SELECTA-RP Team, learning from its mistakes two nights before, beat the Melbourne Tigers, 94-91, at the end of their two-day series last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

Eric Menk canned a buzzer-beating triple that broke the final deadlock at 91 to punctuate the Nationals' impressive all-around performance against the much taller and heftier Tigers.

Olsen Racela shone brightest for the Nationals after the San Miguel playmaker came up with 20 points highlighted by four triples.

Racela, the smallest player on the court at 5-foot-10, made the biggest play when he drove into the teeth of the Tigers' frontline before kicking out to Menk, who buried the triple from the right quartercourt.

"We beat them and it showed that bigger players from other countries are not invincible," said the 31-year-old Racela, who went 8 out of 12 from the field.

Lindsay Gaze, the vastly experienced coach of the Melbourne Tigers, praised the Nationals for beating his troops while providing some insights for the RP team's Asian Games campaign on the side.

"They (Nationals) learned from their mistakes in the first game. They applied good pressure defense this time," said the 65-year-old Gaze, whose Tigers tripped the Nationals, 80-76, on Thursday.

"Still, there's a lot of things that should be done like the ability to contest with bigger players and how to manage a fluid transition game," Gaze said.

Starring Kenneth Duremdes and Menk, the Nationals used their quickness to neutralize the towering Tigers, who fell to as many as 19 points, 73-54, midway into the third quarter.

But Marcus Timmons, Andrew Gaze and Mark Bradtke imposed themselves in the final period, razing the Nationals' sizeable lead and shifting the tide on their side.

Lanard Copeland's trey with 12 ticks to go tied the count at 91 before Menk unleashed his game-winning triple.

"These games are very important to us. It revealed some of the things we need to fix before the Asian Games," said RP headcoach Jong Uichico.

Uichico said the Nationals are slowly adapting to the amateur style of play but said he would prefer having two more international exposures in order to perfect it.

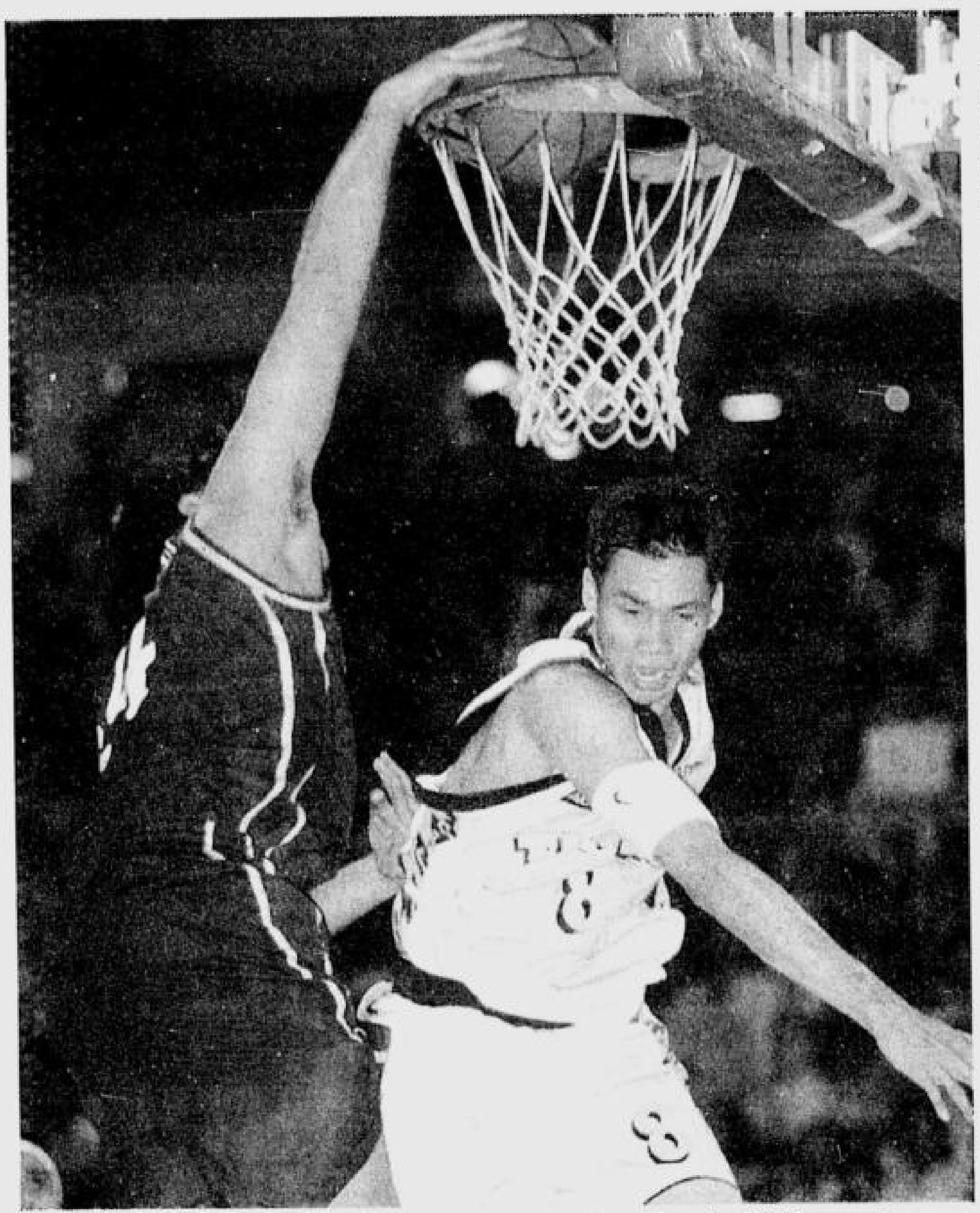
"The structure's already there. All we need is to refine it," said Uichico.

Scores:

SELECTA RP 94—Racela 20, Duremdes 19, Menk 18, Taulava 12, Carlaso 9, Ildefonso 8, Hontiveros 3, Castillo 3, Seigle 2, Jackson 0, Hatfield 0, Pennisi 0.

MELBOURNE TIGERS 91—Timmons 19, Bradtke 18, Gaze 17, Hoare 11, Reuter 9, McMillan 6, Copeland 6, Smith 5, Taylor 0.

Quarters: 29-21, 56-42, 75-67, 94-91.



VILLANUEVA (left) of Ateneo does a slam dunk against Cyrus Baguio of UST yesterday during their UAAP game at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum. Ateneo won, 65-64, after UST's Alwyn Espiritu missed the end of two charities in regulation play. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Ateneo survives UST scare

GAMES TODAY *(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)*
2 p.m.—NU vs FEU
4 p.m.—UE vs La Salle

By Dennis U. Eroa

ATENEO's hard climb to glory gained a lift as it edged University of Santo Tomas, 65-64, yesterday in the UAAP basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Galvanized by their fervent desire to save a roller-coaster season, the Blue Eagles weathered the Tigers' comeback in the dying seconds, tying their victims at third with a 6-5, win-loss record.

The Tigers bowed in silence as Alwyn Espiritu missed the game-tying gift shot, 65-64.

But UST came alive in the ensuing play when the 6-foot-5 Villanueva, fouled underneath the basket, bungled two free throws, five seconds left.

UST took ball possession, but Ateneo was quick to cover main man Cyrus Baguio, leaving rookie Jemal Vizcarra with the almost impossible job of giving the Tigers a golden finish.

With still two seconds remaining, Vizcarra, instead of driving hard to the basket, opted to shoot despite being in an awkward position.

The attempt hit nothing but air, the ball landing to the waiting hands of Rich Alvarez, who was then joined by his teammates in letting a triumphant yell at the buzzer.

"Enrico's shooting 500 free throws a day. He'll reap his rewards soon," said Ateneo mentor Joel Banal on Villanueva's sour free throw shooting, which was also the reason for the Eagles' 97-96 overtime setback to the University of the East Tigers last Aug. 24.

In the first game, University of the Philippines leaned on Abby Santos and Mike Bravo's hits in the homestretch to avenge its first round setback to Adamson, 67-65.

The Falcons, thanks to Patrick Tiongco's torrid outside shooting, had the chance to reverse the outcome, but pointguard Ramil Tagupa committed two crucial turnovers which allowed the Maroons to post their fourth win in 10 outings.

It was a triumphant day for the Diliman-based dribblers as league-leading UP Integrated School recorded its 8th win in nine games by nipping the Adamson Baby Falcons, 63-59, in the junior division.

FIRST GAME

UP 67—Reyes 15, Santos 13, Bravo 11, Almeda 10, Almeda 10, Nunag 5, Ibañez 4, Cervantes 3, Quebral 2, Celo 2, Tabique 2, Bienvinida 0.

ADAMSON 65—Tiongco 20, Mamaclay 15, Catabay 11, Abadia 6, Alonzo 6, Mangulabnan 4, Tagupa 3, Hate 0, Ferrer 0, Gandarosa 0, Tajonera 0, Rolan 0.

Quarters: 20-23, 34-41, 53-48, 67-65.

SECOND GAME

ATENEO 65—Chia 13, Alvarez 12, Fonacier 10, Gonzales 8, Quimpo 7, Villanueva 7, Tadeo 5, Escalona 3, Cruz 0, Del Rosario 0.

UST 64—Espiritu 12, Luanzon 10, Baguio 9, de Guzman 8, Vizcarra 6, Gelig 5, Manansala 5, Villamin 4, Hunalde 2, Raterta 2, Del Rosario 1.

Quarters: 24-19, 38-37, 51-50, 65-64.

Alaska battles Talk N Text, seeks historic comeback

Game 1—Talk N Text d. Alaska, 82-78
Game 2—Talk N Text d. Alaska, 87-79
Game 3—Alaska d. Talk N Text, 84-81
Game 4—Alaska d. Talk N Text, 82-76

GAME TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
5:30 p.m.—Talk N Text vs Alaska.

By June Navarro

ALASKA seeks to accomplish a feat no team has ever done in a best-of-five semifinal series: come back from 0-2 and advance to the championships.

With the momentum on their side, the Aces are poised to take up the challenge, having erased a two-game deficit to equalize the series after an 82-76 victory over the Talk N'Text Phone Pals Friday night.

The sudden-death affair between the Aces and the Phone Pals is set at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Dome, with both squads yearning to arrange a best-of-seven championship series with defending champion Batang Red Bull.

The Thunder advanced into the Finals after eliminating the San Miguel Beermen, 85-80, in Game 4 of their semifinal meeting the other day.

Only two teams in league history have come back from a 0-2 deficit in a best-of-five series and won but both of them did the trick in a PBA Finals series.

Incidentally, Alaska was one of the victims of those historic reversals.

The fabled Crispa Redmanizers turned back Toyota in the 1975 Third Conference while Purefoods repeated the act against Alaska in the third conference of the 1990 season.

Baseball: We'd rather play than picket

NEW YORK—They saved a season and ended a streak by choosing to play rather than picket.

With just hours to spare, baseball averted a strike yesterday when negotiators pulled off a surprise by agreeing to a tentative labor contract.

Commissioner Bud Selig called the deal "historic," the first time since 1970 that players and owners accepted a new collective bargaining agreement without a work stoppage.

"All streaks come to an end, and this was one that was overdue to come to an end," union head Donald Fehr said.

The deal that pulled baseball back from the brink penalizes big spending on player salaries and gives poorer teams a bigger share of the wealth.

In return, the union received a guarantee that baseball won't eliminate teams through the 2006 season. And for the first time, players agreed to mandatory, random testing for steroids. *AP*

PLAY BALL!
"WOOO"
DIAMOND BACKS
9

Arizona Diamondbacks fan Tom Kimbro voices every fan's feelings before the start of the game against the San Francisco Giants in Phoenix, Arizona, Friday night. Calling himself "Thee Ball Park Man," Kimbro traveled to all 30 baseball parks this season, the last at Toronto to watch the Blue Jays. REUTERS

Abaya tops Eagle Ridge seniors tilt

MERARDO Abaya fired a net 67 to clinch overall honors in the recent seniors monthly tournament for August at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

Abaya turned back Manuel Mayo for the overall plum as both players took advantage of their higher handicaps to post the best scores in the 18-hole tourney for players 55 years old and above.

Mayo, who had a net 69 at the Faldo course of the country's biggest golf complex, settled for the Group I (55-59 years) crown, winning by three over Reynaldo Villafuerte with Johnny Chung (73) claiming third place.

Emilio Gozum and Jose Cedo both tallied 74s in ruling their other age-groups.

Gozum charged to a four-stroke win over Renato Aral while Teodorico Zamora took third place with a 79. Cedo also won in runaway fashion with Efren Villanueva finishing four behind at 78 and Claro Zablan ending up third after a 79.

The club is staging monthly tilts for its senior players side by [illegible] raderie.

Eagle is currently promoting its weekend tournaments at affordable rates whereby organizers are given the chance to use either the Faldo or Dye courses.

For inquiries on Eagle's weekend packages, call 046-4192841 (look for Gwyne) or fax to 046-4192843.

The reason

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

THE SUPERSTAR of the mighty Hermie Esguerra Stable is flexing his muscles again this afternoon.

Unless he's scratched, Wind Blown will be everyone's reason to go to the Santa Ana Park.

Wind Blown is seeing action in the eighth race, a Class 1-Division 4B contest which also drew four other top gallopers.

Getting honed for the bigger races later this year, the 5-year-old son of Hazm and Wind in My Hair is tackling Staunch Ally, Be Quiet, Family Task and Ilocandia Slew over 1,500 meters in a race which racing fans say would be reduced to a battle for second spot.

My Silip Boy said Staunch Ally appear to be good as "*pang* forecast" because the Putch Puyat horse was the one who snapped Wind Blown's winning run a few months back and was impressive in his recent barrier.

But there are also those who are betting on Ilocandia Slew, who only two weeks ago shamed former Triple Crown champion Silver Story at the same track.

Wind Blown is the 1 in the Esguerra Stable's 1-2 punch at the moment, the 2 being Magical Mark, an easy winner in a Class 2-Division 3AB race yesterday.

Because he's a diehard Wind Blown fan, my Silip Boy said he's moving his date at the Powerplant later tonight just to watch Race 8.

***

The Philracom will now be holding its weekly board meeting on Mondays starting tomorrow.

Newly-appointed chair Jimmy Dilag said he and all the commissioners decided to do away with the old every-Friday gathering so they'll have more time addressing and finding a quick solution to any problem presented them.

"*Yan ang gusto ko kay* Chariman Dilag, *aksyon agad!*" said a Philracom employee.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Reporter 2. D Joy of the Wild 3. Renzokukon 4. Maximus 5. Puppy Dog Tail
Race 2--1. Silver Music 2. Jamie's Princess 3. Bemedalled Ruler
Race 3--1. Praetorian 2. Sensational 3. Sacred Hall 4. Exchange Deal 5. Queen Storm
Race 4--1. Diabolo Don 2. Court General 3. House Conquest 4. Slew's Pleasure
Race 5--1. Highly Connected 2. Better Harry 2. Speed Charm 4. Crystal Horizon 5. Cobra Door
Race 6--1. Are You Happy 2. Real Diamond 3. Go Ichi 4. Super Dancer 5. Tenacity
Race 7--1. Noor/Roadshow 2. Sun and Sea 3. Pampanga Queen 4. Overture 5. Twister
Race 8--1. Wind Blown 2. Ilocandia Slew
Race 9--1. Suñor Raggans 2. Bumper to Bumper 3. Desert Deb 4. I Love You 5. Kayang Kaya
Race 10--1. Aprey Special 2. Big Treasure/Silver Print 3. Zenio's Pride 4. Chances Are 5. Shuttle's Magic
Race 11--1. Jade Louise 2. Baby Lite 3. Rose of Victory
Race 12--1. May's Magic 2. Kiss Me Quick 3. Golden Tale 4. Dynamite Jack 5. Green Leaves
Race 13--1. Siete de Marso 2. Music Express 3. Peek A Boo 4. Bridegroom 5. Montpellier
Race 14--1. Nokaba 2. Picture Perfect 3. Divine Diva 4. King of Arabia 5. Replica 6. Renegade

Pierce lifts US past Germany

Spain stuns Yugoslavia; Brazil shocks Turkey

SOLAR TODAY
1-3 p.m./7-9 p.m.–Canada vs Yugoslavia
RPN/SOLAR TODAY
9-11 p.m.–USA vs China

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana—Paul Pierce scored 26 points to lead the United States to a 104-87 win over a stubborn Germany at the 2002 FIBA World Basketball Championships on Friday.

The Germans made the title favorites work hard until the Americans finally pulled away late in the third quarter at the RCA Dome.

Germany led twice in the third period, the last time 67-65 with 3:31 remaining.

Dirk Nowitzki of the Dallas Mavericks had 34 points and 10 rebounds to lead all scorers as Germany outplayed the US for long stretches.

Michael Finley had 21 points for the Americans, who now have a 55-0 record when using NBA players in international games. Baron Davis added 13 points and Jermaine O'Neal 11.

The US (2-0) meets China on Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila). China, with No. 1 NBA pick Yao Ming scoring 38 points, whipped Algeria, 96-82.

Ademola Okulaja had 19 points for Germany (1-1), who conclude preliminary round play against Algeria on Saturday.

In other action on the second day of the championships, Spain stunned the team most consider the second best nation at the tournament, edging defending champions Yugoslavia 71-69.

Pau Gasol, the NBA's Rookie of the Year with the Memphis Grizzlies last season, scored 25 points to lead Spain (2-0) to their narrow win over Yugoslavia (1-1).

The title holders trailed by 19 points in the first half but rallied to get within 71-69 with 45 seconds left in regulation time.

Gasol missed two free throws in the last minute, giving Yugoslavia a chance to tie, but Dejan Bodiroga failed to connect with an easy 10-footer with 1.1 seconds left.

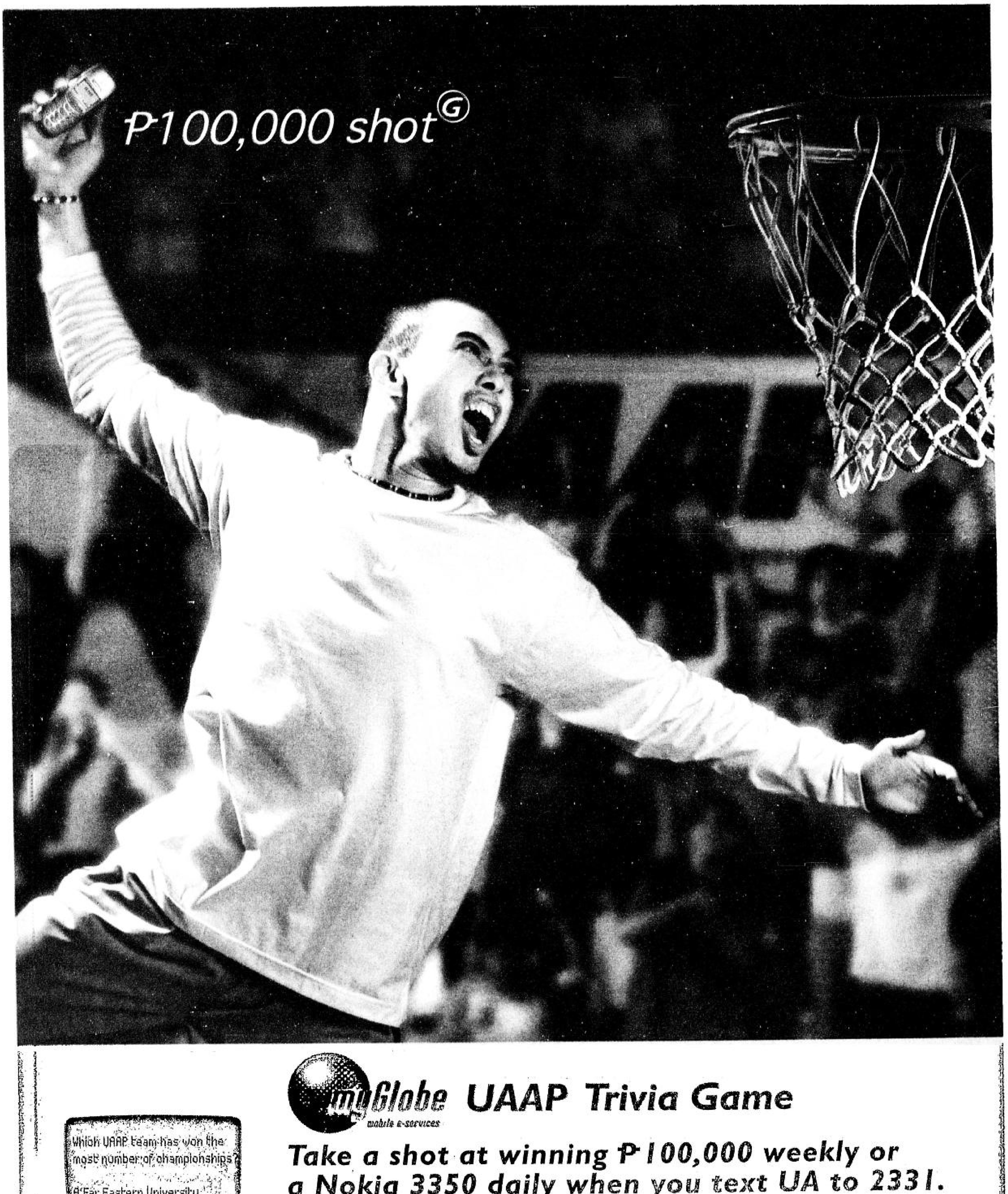
Bodiroga and Peja Stojakovic of the Sacramento Kings both scored 16 points for Yugoslavia.

Marcelo Machado hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to give Brazil a dramatic 88-86 victory over Turkey.

Turkish fans waved flags and cheered wildly, especially after their team took a 70-56 lead after three quarters. Brazil rallied, however, with Machado sealing the win with a 23-foot jumper as time expired.

Brazil (2-0) clinched their place in the second round. *Reuters*

Yao Ming of China (13) fakes out defender Nabil Boudissa (8) of Algeria off his feet during their game in the FIBA World Basketball Championships Friday night at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. Yao scored 38 points as China prevailed, 96-82.
REUTERS



myGlobe mobile e-services UAAP Trivia Game

Which UAAP team has won the most number of championships?
A. Far Eastern University
B. University of Santo Tomas

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'Pink Panther' deadly as 'Catwoman'

PARADORN Srichaphan of Thailand executes a back hand against Greg Rusedski in their US Open match yesterday at Flushing Meadows in New York City. Rusedski won, 3-6, 7-6, 7-6, 6-7, 6-4, and will meet Pete Sampras in the next round. AP

Roddick plays hero off the court

NEW YORK—Rising American tennis star Andy Roddick rescued a young boy from possible serious injury by autograph seekers here Friday after winning his second-round match at the US Open.

On Roddick's 20th birthday, the 11th seed began signing autographs for fans who gathered near the fence along the court level at Louis Armstrong Stadium, where he defeated Dutchman Raemon Sluiter 6-2, 6-4, 6-4.

Roddick and a security guard saw a young boy being jostled and pushed by older patrons in the surge to get within range of Roddick, so together they pulled the boy out of the pile to safety. Roddick gave the upset boy a souvenir to calm him.

"I literally saw the kid take about three elbows to the face," Roddick said. "That didn't shake him. It was rough. He was getting beat up pretty good. I didn't sign too long. I don't think it was safe for the kids in front." Roddick was stunned at the crush to get his signature.

"I don't really understand it but it's normal," he said. "They want to get an autograph and push to the front. It makes for a little bit of a dangerous situation sometimes." *AFP*

S. WILLIAMS: "You can wear it with jeans." AFP

MORE RESULTS

Men 2nd rd Gustavo Kuerten (Bra) bt Marat Safin (Rus x2) 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 Tommy Haas (Ger x3) bt Karol Kucera (Svk) 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 Tim Henman (Gbr x5) bt Dick Norman (Bel) 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 Arnaud Clement (Fra) bt Sebastien Grosjean (Fra x10) 6-3, 3-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 Andy Roddick (USA x11) bt Raemon Sluiter (Ned) 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 Alex Corretja (Spa x18) bt Ivo Heuberger (Swi) 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 Xavier Malisse (Bel x19) bt Vicent Spadea (USA) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 Sjeng Schalken (Ned x24) bt Ivan Ljubicic (Cro) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 Juan Ignacio Chela (Arg x26) bt Michael Llodra (Fra) 7-6 (9/7), 6-3, 6-2 Fernando Gonzalez (Chi x28) bt Kenneth Carlsen (Den) 7-6 (7/5), 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) Thomas Enqvist (Swe x29) bt Alberto Martin (Spa) 6-1, 7-6 (7/3), 6-0 Ramon Delgado (Par) bt Harel Levy (Isr) 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/3) Sargis Sargsian (Arm) bt Alexander Popp (Ger) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-4 Nicolas Massu (Chi) bt Jurgen Melzer (Aut) 6-4, 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 6-0 Women 3rd rd Serena Williams (USA x1) bt Nathalie Dechy (Fra x26) 6-1, 6-1 Lindsay Davenport (USA x4) bt Marion Bartoli (Fra) 6-3, 6-1 Justine Henin (Bel x8) bt Bea Bielik (USA) 7-5, 6-1 Daniela Hantuchova (Svk x11) bt Iva Majoli (Cro x24) 6-3, 6-1 Francesca Schiavone (Ita) bt Tatiana Panova (Rus x22) 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 Elena Bovina (Rus) bt Stephanie Foretz (Fra) 6-2, 5-7, 7-5 afp02 *AFP*

Serena dispatches foe in 49 minutes

NEW YORK—World number one Serena Williams ditched her black skintight "Catwoman" suit for a stylish "Pink Panther" look, but proved just as overpowering at the US Open.

The reigning Wimbledon and French Open champion advanced to the fourth round of the Grand Slam tournament here Friday with a 6-1, 6-1 triumph over France's Nathalie Dechy. She fired six aces and 27 winners to defeat Dechy in 49 minutes.

Williams discarded the black Lycra "cat suit" she wore through the first two rounds for a "strawberry ice" pink top, matching pink headband, wristband and shoes with a black dress.

Pierced belly button jewelry was visible thanks to a strategic slit in her favorite new top.

"I really liked this top and you can wear it with jeans or whatever. I just wanted to wear it," Williams said. "I love pink. It's my new favorite color." Fans of the curve-hugging look need not fear. Although Williams has not decided what outfit she might wear in the semifinals and finals, the cat suit figures to make a comeback before the fortnight is finished.

"In the cat suit, I feel like a cat. I can go fast. I feel really, really serious in that outfit. So I will be back in it," Williams said. "Especially when I play at night, it's like a cat. I move really fast in that suit. Watch out." Williams had no input in these designs by her apparel sponsor, although she did have a hand in creating the gold shoes with red and black dresses and white outfit she wore at Wimbledon.

"The only thing I would have input in is how to make it fit better, because I have an alleged itty-bitty waist," Williams said. "Clothes have to be made special for me." While she will climb into a cat suit, Williams refused to be catty about her fellow players. Asked who was the worst dresser in women's tennis, she smiled and said, "Oh come on. Good try though. Worth a try." Aspiring actress Williams looked "Pretty in Pink," the title of a movie she loved, and said her unique and revealing outfits could bring new fans to the sport.

"I think it brings lots of viewers to watch it," Williams said. "It's fun. I'm doing well. I like it." Williams, whose next opponent is 20th-seeded Czech Daja Bedanova, said she has not lost her confidence since she doubted her driving skills while at Wimbledon in 2000. *AFP*

Collarless but not colorless

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

ASIANS have reasons to rejoice once more. Their very own, Paradorn Srichaphan of Thailand, has just made waves in the US Open Tennis championship at Flushing Meadows in New York City.

Just last week, Srichaphan, a practitioner of Thai kickboxing, became the first Asian to win an ATP Tour since 1998.

Yesterday, he nearly beat the famous Greg Rusedski. Almost flawless in winning the first set, 6-3, Srichaphan however seemed to have lost focus after dropping a close 6-7 second set. The Thai was leading, 5-3, in the third set's tiebreak, but unforced errors pulled him down as Rusedski rallied for a 7-6 (7-5) victory.

In the fourth set, Srichaphan rallied from 5-6 for a 6-6 count, then rained Rusedski with shots that knew no borders. He won, 7-6 (7-3).

After that, Srichaphan fell apart in the deciding fifth, his arsenal of shots deserting him like ants gone on a mission to store up food for the rainy season.

In the deciding fifth, Rusedski broke Srichaphan in the first game as the Thai swam into a maze of unforced errors, stretching up to Game 3 which he double-faulted away to hand Rusedski a 3-0 lead.

No amount of cheering from the anti-Rusedski crowd could coax the Thai back into the match. Rusedski answered hostility with his 19th ace of the match, storming to a 4-1 lead. Next, the Briton used the poise of a veteran to kill a rally and prevail, 6-4, in the process pocketing the gruelling match.

In the end, Srichaphan's inexperience did him in.

But Srichaphan's time will come. He has what it takes to hit the big time. He is tall and athletic. He has the quickness and the power, two traits that define the game of tennis. And he has a father who seems ready to stand by him at all times: Coach, inspiration, traveling companion.

How many fathers are behind the success stories of athletes?

Earl Woods for Tiger Woods.

Richard Williams for the Williams Sisters (Venus and Serena).

Hereabouts, there was Tatang de Vega for Lydia de Vega, Cely Villanueva for Anthony Villanueva and Angel Nepomuceno for Paeng Nepomuceno, to name only a few.

Srichaphan has an abundance of talent, what he sorely lacks is seasoning. But more tournaments coupled with hard work will soon conspire to remedy that.

Srichaphan has sort of endeared himself to the New York crowd known for its snootiness when he put some flair of drama into his defeat.

Down 5-6 in the fourth set, he changed into a flaming red shirt. Collarless. Red is the trademark color of Tiger Woods when he goes into the fourth round of a tournament leading the field. Almost always, Woods, whose mother is Thai, would win.

Srichaphan did not win yesterday but he pretty much thrilled the crowd when he closed the gap to 4-5 from 2-5 in the fifth set. Surely, his epic stand of three hours, 44 minutes against Rusedski would put him in good stead in his future tournaments.

It will probably take more time before Srichaphan would hit the big time. But for now, I hope Srichaphan's exploits on the world stage will inspire our own players to work harder in scaling the heights.

The spectators in New York cheered at almost every shot that Srichaphan fired. Many of them, obviously Srichaphan's fellow Thais, waved Thai flags glued to sticks. Some of the applause came from whites, which only goes to show that talent is as colorless as water.

For indeed, the color of skin—whether white, brown, black, or even yellow—has got nothing to do with excellence. The brain wasn't invented for the whites alone. God made it for everybody.

Even for a relative nobody like Srichaphan.

For now that is.

SPORTSWATCH

RP pockets 6 golds

THE PHILIPPINES won six gold medals in the recent 4th Asian Zone Invitational Tenpin Bowling competitions in the federal territory of Labuan in Malaysia. The nine-athlete delegation also nailed 10 bronze medals from the three-day meet participated in by 11 teams from Chinese Taipei, Macau, Selangor/Kuala Lumpur, Sarawak (Kuching, Miri & Sibu) and Sabah. The gold medalist were Roberto Jesus Clarino, Antonio Ranel Lopez, Reginald Reyes, Jonathan Daniel Zulueta, Roxanne Ng, Catherine Uy. The bronze medalists were Stephanie Babst, Henry Calderon, Roxanne Ng, Catherine Uy, Jeffrey Calon, Robin Clarino, Jonathan Zulueta, Ranel Lopez, Reginald Reyes, Henry Calderon, Jeffrey Calon and Stephanie Babst. The team officials were Cristy Gacuma, Mye Navarro, Angel Agustines, Jesusa Babst and Gani Zulueta. The delegation is a joint project of Power Bowl at Rockwell which provided the venue for practices and Molecules which provided the outfit of the team.

Tan Ho vs Ngo today

XAVIER School's Joshua Tan Ho downed Mark Balce, 6-4, 6-3, yesterday to advance in the boys' 12-under finals of the Philta Classic 4 age-group tournament at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center. Tan Ho, champion in the Juntaphil Cup last April, will face Lourdes School's Gerard Michael Ngo, who survived Patrick Arevalo, 7-6 (3), 5-7, 6-2. In the boys' 16-under class, Michael Basco defeated Nestor Celestino Jr., 6-2, 6-1, and Miguel Narvaez outplayed Jandrick de Castro, 7-6 (5), 6-2 to reach the finals of this event sponsored by Dunlop balls. Action starts at 8 a.m.

Bowling killed by IOC

LAUSANNE, Switzerland—Baseball, softball and modern pentathlon have three months left to save their sports from being dropped from the Olympics. Ballroom dancing, surfing and bowling can forget trying to get into the games. The International Olympic Committee executive board considered an internal report Thursday proposing the biggest shakeup in the sports program of the summer games. The program commission recommends eliminating baseball, softball and modern pentathlon, as well as events and disciplines in wrestling, equestrian, rowing, sailing, canoe-kayak and others.

Rotary golf at Sta. Elena

THE GOVERNOR'S Cup hosted by Rotary District 3780 of Quezon City will tee-off tomorrow at Sta. Elena. Conceived to finance projects of the district under Bobby F. Viray, the tournament stakes a Yamaha golf cart as a hole-in-one prize. Call 412-3269, 4119062, 8447780/09, 8438688, 551-6482, 833-1234 local 81412 for other details.

Fistorama over RPN 9

SAN Miguel Beer's Fistorama today features super-lightweights Chris Partulan and Ulysses Puson in 10 rounds over RPN 9 starting at 12 noon. The fight was covered by Joe Cantada Sports, with top sportscaster Ed Picson and legendary boxing commentator Taby Tabanlag as panelists.

BIKE FOR LIFE

Bike for Life is a fund-raising and consciousness-raising effort to help kids beat cancer. It was founded by a cancer survivor, James Auste, who will take the lead in the Bike for Life tour in North Luzon from August 31 to September 15, 2002. The bikers will be journeying through 14 towns and cities, proclaiming that cancer can be beaten through early detection and treatment. Join them on their journey.

August 31	Starting Point: The Fort (fronting Jollibee)
August 31	First Destination Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
September 1	Second Destination Bayombong/Solano N. Vizcaya
September 2	Third Destination Tuguegarao, Cagayan
September 3	Fourth Destination Claveria, Cagayan
September 4	Fifth Destination REST DAY IN PAGUDPOD
September 5	Sixth Destination Laoag, Ilocos Norte
September 6	Seventh Destination Vigan, Ilocos Norte
September 7	REST DAY IN VIGAN
September 8	Eighth Destination San Fernando, La Union
September 9	Ninth Destination Baguio City
September 10	REST DAY IN BAGUIO
September 11	Tenth Destination Urdaneta, Pangasinan
September 12	Eleventh Destination Concepcion, Tarlac
September 13	Twelfth Destination San Fernando, Pampanga
September 14	Thirteenth Destination Bulacan
September 15	The Fort-THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

SEPT 1

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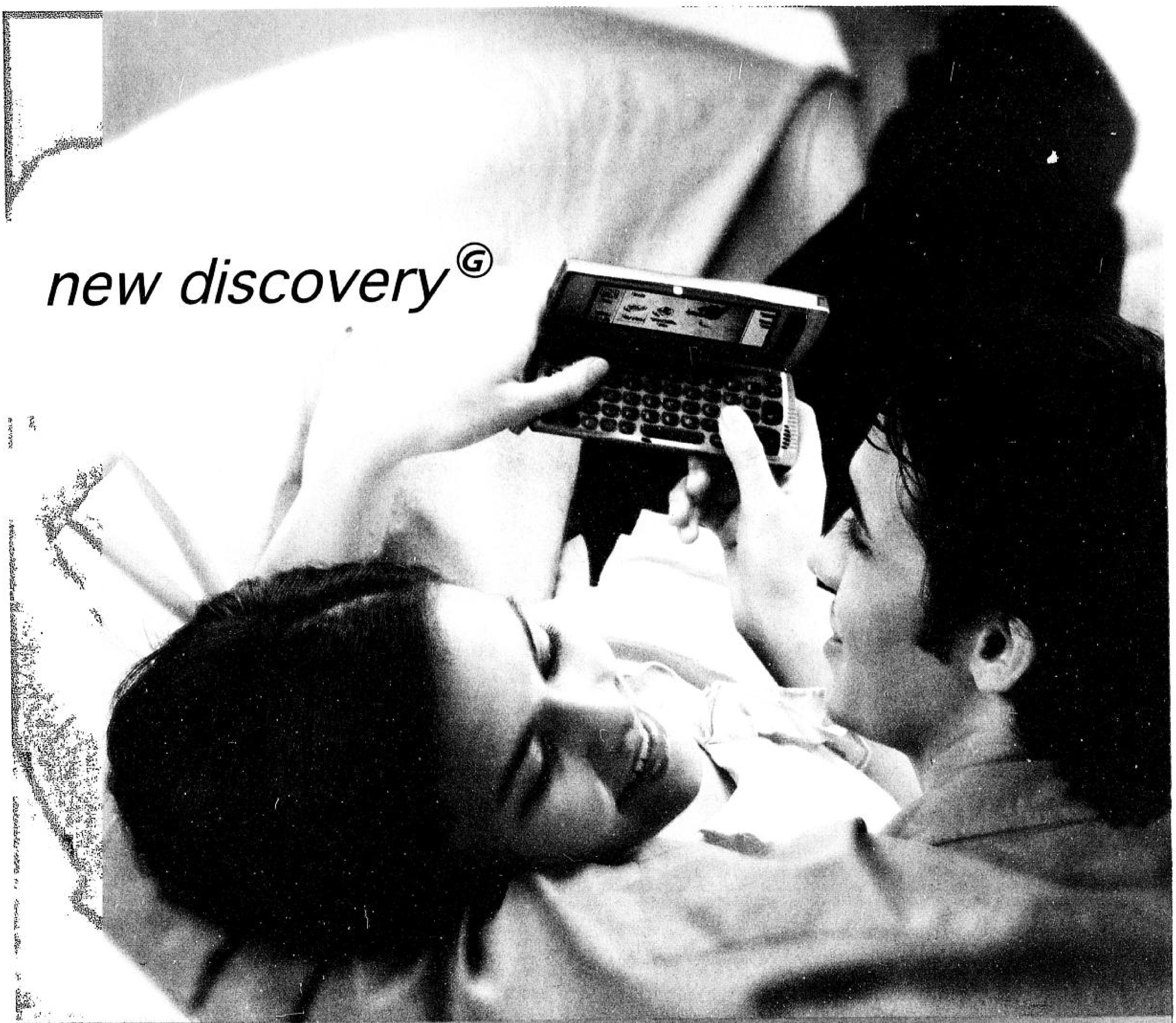

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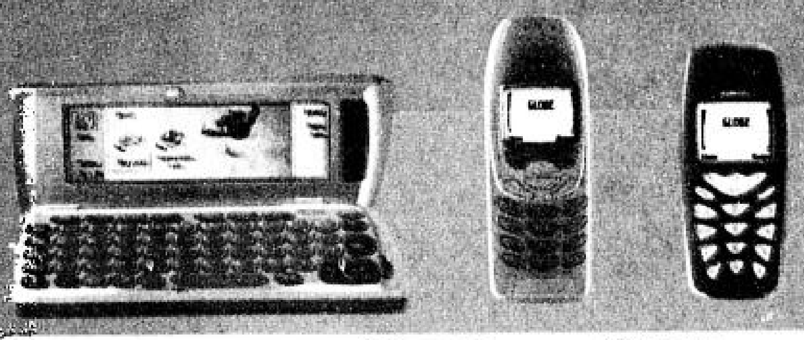

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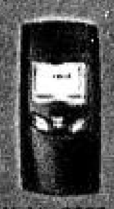
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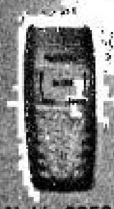
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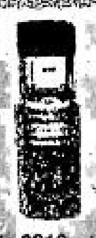
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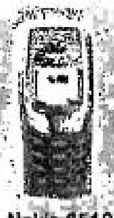
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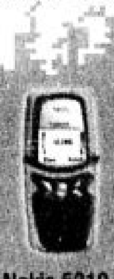
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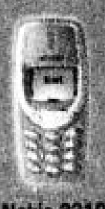
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■ Youth killed in brawl /A24

METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino

■ Traffic rerouting in malls /A24

■ Peace in the city /A24

■ Night markets in Makati /A24

MMDA unified scheme 'to wipe out garbage'

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has approved a unified garbage program that would supposedly wipe out the mountains of garbage growing all over the metropolis.

The program, which has been endorsed to the different city and municipal councils, will designate specific venues and schedules for the collection of garbage, MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando told the INQUIRER on Thursday.

"Our aim is to eliminate the mounds of garbage in the streets of Metro Manila," Fernando said following a meeting with the MMDA Metro Manila Council composed of the 17 mayors in the National Capital Region.

The new scheme sets the "responsibility of households, establishments, and other waste generators" in the government's waste management program, according to Fernando.

On collection day, "waste generators" will be required to place their trash on the sidewalk in front of their house or establishment and wait until the garbage is collected.

Residents will be prohibited from taking out their garbage outside of the collection day.

In areas which are inaccessible to garbage trucks, collectors will pick up trash from each house or establishment, Fernando said.

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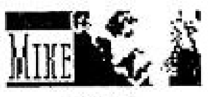

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Traffic rerouting in malls eyed

ByLeila B. Salaverria

THE METRO Manila Development Authority is eyeing the rerouting of traffic in several mall entrances and exits to keep traffic congestion to a minimum.

The scheme, which would designate a single entrance and exit for vehicles going in and out of the malls, has already started last Monday at SM Megamall, the largest shopping mall in the Philippines, said MMDA chair Bayani Fernando.

In a recent interview, MMDA Deputy Chair Cesar Lacuna said the scheme is still in its experimental stage and if successful, would be implemented in other areas.

"It's not yet final," Lacuna said of the scheme. "But we would conduct the experiment on Metro Manila's malls."

Under the new system, several parking exits of Megamall along Edsa were closed, and vehicles entering and leaving the mall could only use a single exit and entrance along Edsa, which is right beside the Asian Development Bank.

Lacuna also said that several railings were removed in front of Megamall along Edsa to allot a longer area for buses could pick up passengers.

"Buses tend to bunch up at the area at the end of Megamall A, and this blocks traffic. That's why we removed some of the railings," he said.

Meanwhile, the MMDA's no left turn policy was implemented yesterday at the Roosevelt and Congressional Avenue intersection along Edsa in Quezon City.

According to Lydia Bolante from the MMDA Metrobase, vehicles coming from Congressional Avenue who wish to take the southbound lane of Edsa must first turn right and take the U-turn slot near the tripway and Royal St. Those coming from Roosevelt Avenue who want to take the northbound lane of Edsa must turn right and take the U-turn slot near Bansalangin Street.

Bolante said the scheme is still experimental. The MMDA's no left turn policy has earlier been implemented along several busy intersections on EDSA.

Makati night markets for vendors

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE MAKATI City government will come up with night markets as an alternative venue for sidewalk vendors who have recently been up in arms over their eviction by the Metro Manila Development Authority.

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay said that night markets would be set up along Jupiter St. and A.P. Bonifacio Avenue in front of the Sta. Ana racetrack beginning October. Binay said the streets would be closed to motorists starting 6 p.m. to make way for the market.

He said the night markets would alleviate the problem of illegal sidewalk vendors in the city, as the vendors would have an alternative area in which to ply their trade. He added that the plan might work for other parts of Metro Manila as well. He also said the night markets, which are very popular abroad, would be financially rewarding for the vendors and would bring an added boost to the city because the markets could also serve as tourist attractions.

The MMDA has recently received flak from urban poor groups after MMDA chair Bayani Fernando ordered a crackdown on illegal vendors, instructing MMDA personnel to destroy the wares and spraying of the good with kerosene if the vendors become violent.

Amid criticism, Fernando has maintained that he would not stop clearing the sidewalks of all obstructions, and not only vendors, because he has to implement the law. He has also pointed out that a lot of empty spaces are found inside marketplaces, where the displaced vendors could transfer.

Local government executives have been divided on the issue of whether or not to spray kerosene on the vendors' wares, while some Metro Manila mayors have said that they opt to take a softer approach regarding the eviction of sidewalk vendors.

Binay said yesterday that while the night markets are seen to curb sidewalk vending, the plan to put them up was already being studied since a few months ago. To qualify for the night market, he said the vendors should be Makati residents and should be registered members of the Makati Vendors Program.

Peace in the city

By Antonio S. Santos
Contributor

SINCE OPENING its doors to the public in July last year, students and teachers from the colleges and universities in the area, businesspersons, housewives, NGO workers and volunteers, environmentalists, and even radio listeners who live all the way in Quezon City have been drawn to Inner Space in Ermita, Manila.

"I am enriched!" smiles Olive Balatan, an IS auditor and a mother.

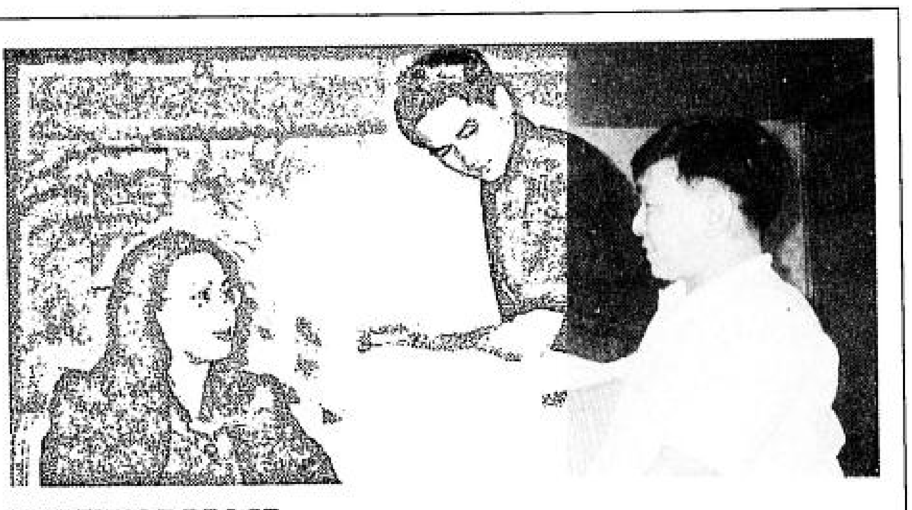
She first came to Inner Space last January, and for the succeeding Mondays and Wednesdays since, hardly missed the programs.

"The programs are an opportunity to know myself," she said. "They are about going back to the basics by reminding us of our positive qualities. And it's wonderful because I get to explore myself with people who are drawn together by the thrill of discovery. Here, we learn in a classroom where each one of us is both a student and a teacher. I've also invited my friends, and we share the common feeling that spending 60 minutes at the end of the day is nurturing for the spirit."

For student, educator, would-be molecular biologist JR de Vera , it was plain curiosity.

"I came with a friend who had sat in in one of the sessions, trusting my gut-feel that there was a reason why I was there myself. Switches inside me were flicked on, you know that kind of thing? Like, all the time you knew these things which were just there waiting to be rediscovered or were just suppressed because the time for them to be realized had yet to come!

One of my many realizations was that life's just a journey, a road one follows to self-discovery. How you enjoy life is what's truly important, and the consciousness that you are a spiritual being. These have helped me in dealing with my students and also with my co-workers."



THREE FOR PEACE
Olive Balatan, JR De Vera and Eric Capua share a journey toward self-discovery and find peace along the way in Inner Space in Ermita, Manila.

Sari-sari store owner Eric Capua wanted to manage his anger. "I came here because I needed an intelligent answer as to how I can manage my anger. Then I looked inside of men and said, 'I am angered only when I allow myself to get angry!' I laughed at the thought because it was true. You cannot blame other people for getting yourself angry. You choose or chose to be angry. But if you stay cool, then there's no problem.

Problems disappear. Literally, sometimes. Like my neighbors who had irritated me in the past. One by one, they left the neighborhood. *Nakakatawa*!

"I've discovered new-found strength. What I've learned at Inner Space works! Having discovered the benefits of meditation, I find myself practicing visualization, putting down my thoughts on paper, living with adversity, acceptance, and forgiveness as a prerequisite to peace of mind. I'm living my life now as a life of answered prayers."

No experience can truly be duplicated exactly. But the idea is to want something badly enough that all energies are focused on that one goal, at that one moment.

(The "Living Values for a Better World" Series runs until September at Inner Space 3/F CDC Building, Ma. Orosa, Ermita, Manila. Or you can ring up 521 2015 for details.)

Youth shot to death in billiard hall brawl

By Jerome Aning

AN 18-year-old student was shot to death while his friend was injured during a billiard hall brawl in Sampaloc, Manila before dawn yesterday.

Nomer Esteves, a resident of 686 Algeciras St., Sampaloc and a student of Guzman Institute of Technology died from a gunshot wound in the chest, police said. His companion, Ernest Hernandez, 20, of 1859 G. Tuazon St., was wounded in the left arm.

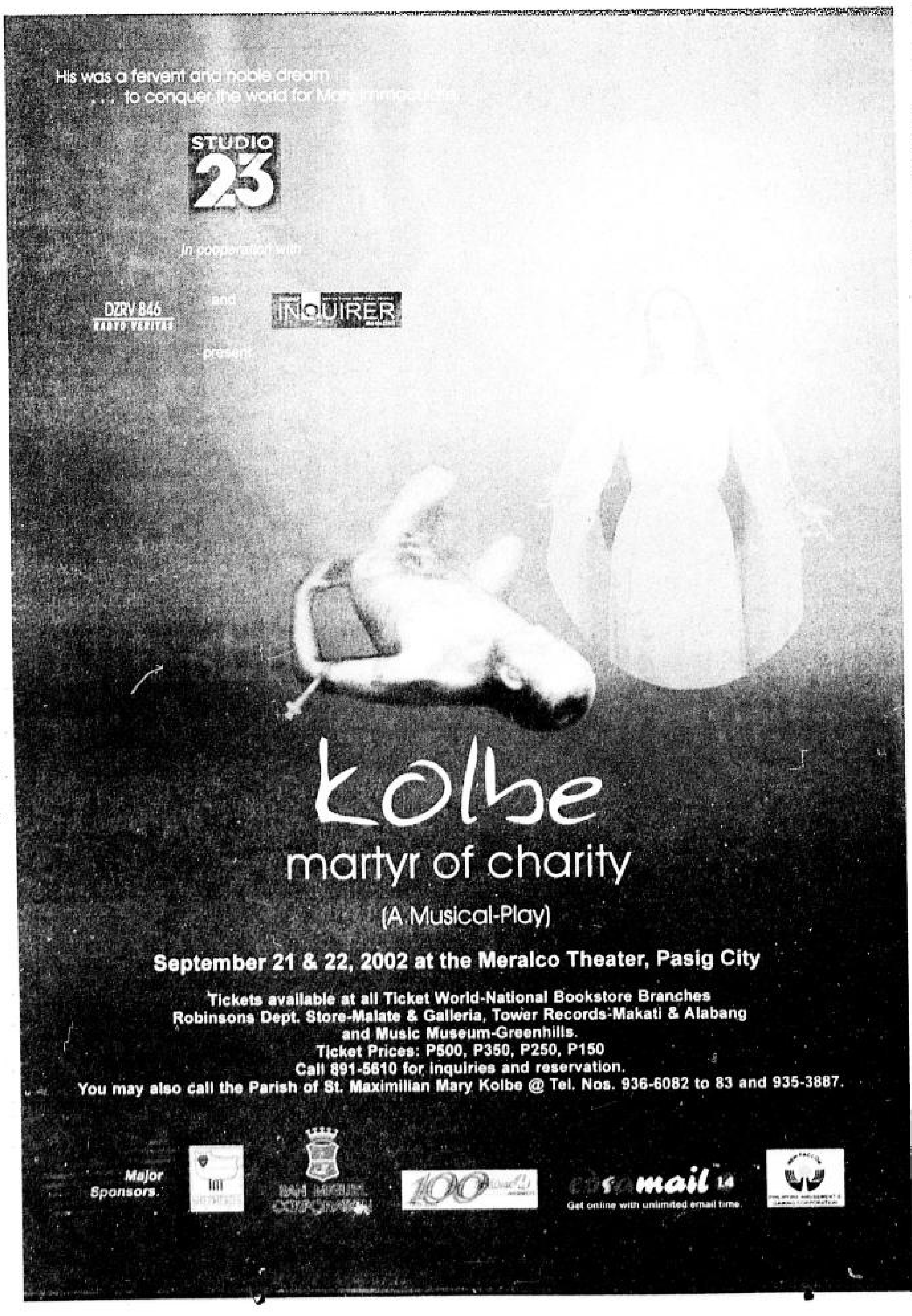
SPO1 Diomedes Labarda said the shooting took place while the victims and four friends—who had just attended a birthday party—were passing the Bata's Billiard Hall on Tuazon corner Palawan streets at 4:15 a.m. yesterday.

He said that someone inside the hall hurled an empty bottle of beer at the victims' group.

Esteves and Fernandez entered the place and confronted the players inside.

A brawl ensued and the owner of the billiard hall shot Esteves and Fernandez with a . 38 pistol, police said.

Police withheld the name of the suspect pending further investigation.



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Violence among youths triggered by drug-use

THIRTY-NINE percent of 850 Metro Manila youth that have been involved in a fight had admitted to drug use in the last three months, according to a study conducted by DrugCheck Philippines Inc.

The study also showed that 30.2 percent of the respondents have been involved in fraternity and gang wars, with 58.36 percent admitting to drug abuse.

Marijuana has been named the drug of choice by the respondents, the survey said.

The data is symptomatic of the overall state of drug use in the Philippines, said Mylon Villasante, DrugCheck Philippines spokesperson.

"This is very disturbing since drugs are obviously destroying the moral fiber of society," he said.

Villasante appealed to school authorities to conduct a systematic drug awareness program and to institute a comprehensive drug testing and prevention program.

DrugCheck Philippines Inc. is supposedly the largest drug-testing company in the country.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE: SUMMARY PROCEDURE)--Unlawful detainer cases--In an unlawful detainer case, the only issue for resolution is physical or material possession of the property involved, independent of any claim of ownership by any of the party litigants. Consequently, the filing of an action for reconveyance of title over the same property or for the annulment of the deed of sale over the land does not divest the municipal trial court of its jurisdiction to try the forcible entry or unlawful detainer case before it and the same may not be successfully pleases in abatement of an action for unlawful detainer or forcible entry. This is because an ejectment suit is summary in nature and the same cannot be circumvented by the simple expedient of asserting ownership over the property. The fact, therefore, that an action for annulment of deeds and reconveyance was pending before another branch of the regional trial court cannot be pleaded by herein private respondents in abatement of the ejectment case before the municipal circuit trial court. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Kapunan, First Division, Barba v. Court of Appeals, G. R. No. 126638, February 6, 2002]

DIGEST BY R. B. VERA

THE DAILY GOSPEL

THE DAILY GOSPEL
Sunday, September 1, 2002
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jer 20:7-9

Yahweh, you have seduced me and I let myself be seduced.
You have taken me by force and prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long; they all make fun of me,
for every time I speak I have to shout, "Violence! Devastation!"
Yahweh's word has brought me insult and derision all day long.
So I decided to forget about him and speak no more in his name.
But his word in my heart becomes like a fire burning deep within my bones.
I try so hard to hold it in, but I cannot do it.

2nd Reading: Rom 12:1-2

I beg you, dearly beloved, by the mercy of God, to give yourselves as a living and holy sacrifice pleasing to God: such is the worship of a rational being. Don't let yourselves be shaped by the world where you live, but rather be transformed through the renewal of your mind. You must discern the will of God: what is good, what pleases, what is perfect.

Gospel: Mt 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem; he would suffer many things from the Jewish authorities, the chief priests and the teachers of the Law. He would be killed and be raised on the third day.

Then Peter took him aside and began to reproach him, "Never, Lord! No, this must never happen to you." But Jesus turned to him and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You would have me stumble. You are their king not as God does, but as people do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If you want to follow me, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me. For whoever chooses to save his life will lose it, but the one who loses his life for my sake will find it. What will one gain by winning the whole world if he destroys himself? There is nothing you can give to recover your own self.

Know that the Son of Man will come in the Glory of his Father with the holy angels, and he will reward each one according to his deeds."

Commentary

After Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ, the latter is said to have started his discourse on his impending passion. Evidently the confession, said correctly on behalf of the other disciples, was distorted by the prism of their selfish interests. They would not want such consequences of the proclamation of God's reign by Jesus as the Christ. Clearly at this stage, their concern was not yet the Lord's - i.e., the message of God's reign no matter whither it might lead - but their own worldly selfish ambitions. Rightly Peter and the other disciples were called Satan (adversary). As disciples, their duty was not to dictate to the Master what to do but to get behind him and follow his footsteps in the proclamation of God's reign. Our involvement with church activities - are they inspired by true discipleship or by our own hidden agenda?

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Moment of truth

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

M. NIGHT Shyamalan's third feature film, "Signs," says something big while rigorously sticking to a small, intimate format. It begins with a farmer (**Mel Gibson**) waking up all of a sudden to realize that his two children aren't in their beds.

He looks for them outside and finds something unexpected: a row of mysterious crop circles. At first, he and his younger brother (**Joaquin Phoenix**) think that they are the work of pranksters. Later, however, similar circles are reported all over the world. Could that many pranksters team up to pull off the same monumental hoax?

Still later, it is intimated that this is no unnerving scam, that the crop circles have been created to serve as landing pads for extraterrestrial spaceships that have come to spirit away as many humans as they can!

This is a huge and vastly important development but, wonder of wonders, this isn't what the film is really about. The alien "invasion" happens not for its own sake, but to test the faith, or lack of it, of Gibson's character.

Because it turns out that he isn't just a farmer, he's a pastor who only six months ago stopped believing in God. He did this in angry reaction to his wife's "senseless" death.

The widower has had to take care of his young son and daughter, and he hasn't been doing a good job of it, even with the help of his younger brother. More than anything, they want him to make them whole, to help them make sense of their mother's death. But he can't do that, because he's been unable to do it for himself.

Then come the crop circles, the spaceships, the extraterrestrials, the invasion—and Gibson's family is grievously threatened. At first, his defense is to blame God all over again—the same God that says he no longer exists.

But the danger becomes so huge that he is forced to rise above his pain, anger, self-pity and hate, and truly come to the defense of his children.

In so doing, he arrives at a realization, an epiphany, that empowers him to finally become the father that his poor children have been longing for all these months.

Yes, "Signs" is a sci-fi movie. Sometimes, it feels like "E.T.," only darker. And the little girl here calls to mind the **Drew Barrymore** character in **Steven Spielberg's** seminal film.

But the production goes beyond its science-fiction element, to explore questions of faith, psychological healing, parent-child relations, instinct for survival, love, loss, acceptance, etc.

The wonder is that the writer-director is able to do all that while determinedly keeping his movie small. In fact, it sometimes feels like a less self-consciously jerky "Blair Witch Project"—and you can't get any smaller than *that*.

Best of all, after all the sci-fi, the family drama, and the philosophical and religious musings, the film is a moving, emphatic experience. Thus, the insights it comes up with are not so much understood but *felt* by viewers, on a personal level.

The film's ability to have this personal kind of impact is greatly aided by the natural and felt performances turned in by its actors—who, by the way, include director Shyamalan himself, in an important cameo.

Gibson is used to headlining huge, sprawling blockbusters, but he does his best work here, in perhaps the "smallest" movie he's ever done. Phoenix is right up there with him, with his own psychological demons to wrestle with.

And the film's two child actors are marvels to behold, because they don't seem to be acting at all. The boy is sullen, morose and profoundly unhappy, while his kid sister is winsome but wise beyond her years. As for Shyamalan's character, he wears his guilt like a shroud that threatens to engulf him completely.

With only five principal actors, "Signs" is able to conjure up a tale with universal resonances, thanks to the acuteness of writer-director Shyamalan's craft, art and sensibility.

His work here has been likened to Spielberg's (that "E.T." connection) and **Alfred Hitchcock's** (those spellbinding touches, that penchant for cameo appearances), but Shyamalan is really his own person as a filmmaker.

If iconic obeisances *must* be made, the combination of sci-fi and spirituality in "Signs" is really more akin to **Stanley Kubrick's** profound, memorable achievement in "2001: A Space Odyssey." This time, however, the focus is not on the aliens, but on the humans they have startled into ultraconsciousness of their place in the Universe, and in each other's hearts.

CHINESE actress Gong Li.

Salma Hayek is star of the day ...

From page A30

ed execs with cigars plugging their lips pedaled along on the rickety rental bikes that are the vehicle of choice on this thin island off central Venice.

Among the other major films at the 59th Venice Film Festival were "Road to Perdition," starring Hanks and Paul Newman and directed by Sam Mendes of "American Beauty"; Steven Soderbergh's "Full Frontal," an experimental film with Julia Roberts and many other stars; as well as Liliana Cavani's "Ripley's Game," starring John Malkovich.

Plus, dozens of international art films—among them "Lilja 4-Ever" by highly touted Swedish director Lukas Moodysson and Italian director Michele Placido's "A Journey Called Love"—were battling it out for a Golden Lion prize that in some cases may offer the only chance for a film to get wide distribution.

Festival director Moritz de Hadeln, who has stated frankly that the show has lost some of its prestige in recent years due to erratically awarded prizes, told the exclusive crowd at the opening gala that he aimed to see that previous glory return.

"We hope this will become a really interesting grouping of talent and ideas, like in the past," he said.

The awards ceremony comes Sept. 8, on the festival's last day, when the jury headed by Chinese actress Gong Li will hand out the main prizes, while a second jury will award prizes in the Upstream category for more experimental films.

AP

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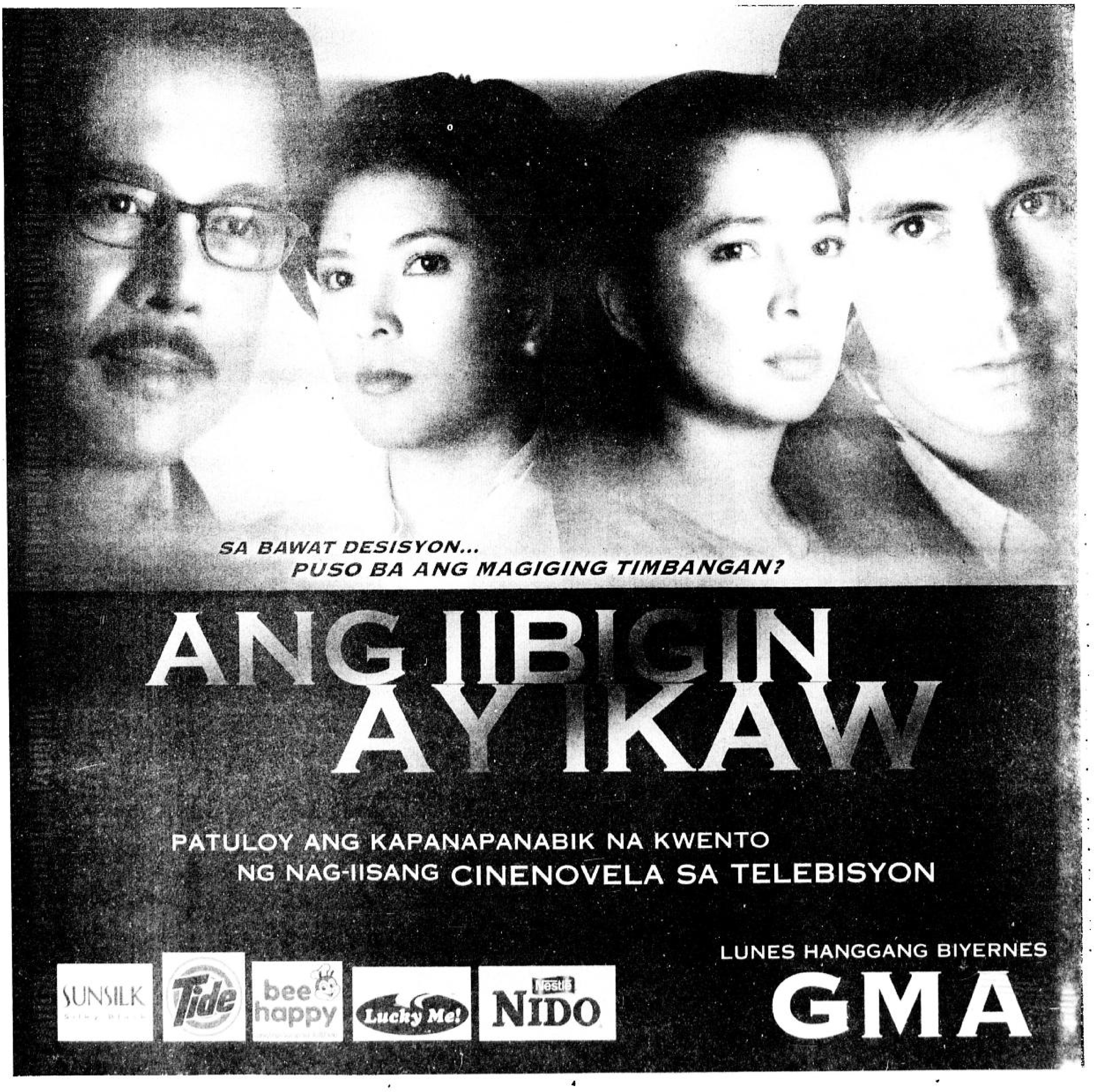
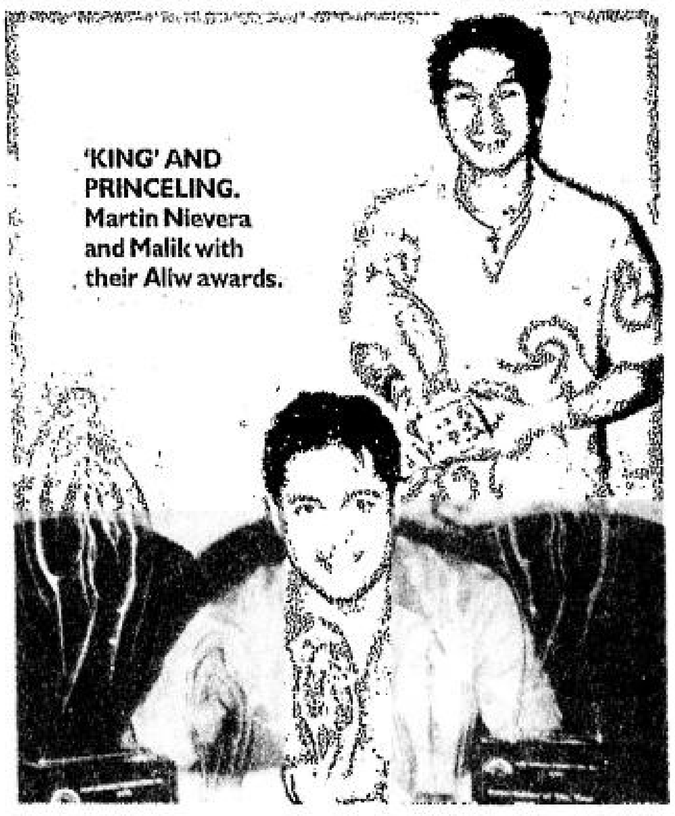


What Martin, newcomer Malik have in common



'KING' AND PRINCELING. Martin Nievera and Malik with their Aliw awards.

CONCERT KING Martin Nievera and newcomer Malik, both of Polyeast Records, have something in common now: Both are winners of top honors in the recent Silver Aliw Awards.

Martin was elevated to the Aliw Hall of Fame after receiving three Entertainer of the Year awards (1985, 2000, 2001) from the 25-year-old organization. Under Aliw Awards Foundation Inc. regulations, three-time winners of the Entertainer of the Year award gets elevated to the Aliw Hall of Fame.

Martin joins legends like Pilita Corrales, the late Bert "Tawa" Marcelo and Celeste Legaspi in this gallery of distinction.

Martin's track record as a live concert performer remains unbeaten. He is always brimming with energy as well as with ideas. His every act always seems new. And he makes even a guest appearance in another star's show so memorable as to make it almost seem his own, just like his guest performance in Megastar Sharon Cuneta's "Mega-Event" concert at the Araneta Coliseum.

In recording, Martin has earned several multi-platinum awards. His albums from PolyEast—"Forever," "Return to Forever," "Souvenirs" and "More Souvenirs"—have received platinum and multi-platinum awards in a short span of time.

The Aliw Award for best new male artist may be Malik's ticket to stardom.

"I am thankful for this," Malik says of his award. "This is a good motivation for me."

Malik is gradually inching to the top of the hit chart with his songs "You Are My Heart," which is a Brian McKnight composition, and "Sa 'king Pagbabalik" from his self-titled debut album.

PUNZALAN. She has found a best friend, constant companion and counselor.

Princess Punzalan: In real life, I don't even shout

SELINA and Ernestina made her the perfect *kontravida* you love to hate. But no matter what name you call her, Bernadette Felici Vela Punzalan will always be Princess to you and me.

Princess used to be known as the late Helen Vela's daughter and even took her mother's place as host of the television top grosser, "Lovingly Yours."

Now that the Helen-Vela's-daughter tag has faded, Princess is glad to be known for what she can be by herself.

"I am very proud to be Helen Vela's daughter but I am also grateful to be known as an individual," says Princess. "It feels good to be appreciated for what you can do."

For one who says she never dreamed of becoming an actress, Princess has become an important part of Filipino soap operas. "When I was a child, I wanted to be a scientist, a doctor, a ballet dancer, a gymnast," she says, her voice trailing off. "I never really thought I would end up an actress. But no regrets."

She played villainess for the first time as Selina in "Mula sa Puso." "It was hard convincing people that I could be mean when I used to play sweet and nice roles."

How does she do it then?

"I try to make a character sketch—her childhood, what events in her life possibly influence her motives, what growing up for her is like," she discloses.

"Then I would have a firmer grasp of the motivations in the character's heart and mind."

She says such portrayals of villains can be so physically demanding that she has actually turned to healthy stuff—soya milk, oatmeal or muesli for breakfast, fruits for lunch and protein for dinner. "Mainly for health reasons and, of course, I also need to look good," she says, adding that she also has daily routines with the stationary bike and some floor exercises.

As Ernestina, the bitter and selfish attention-greedy antagonist in "Kung Mawawala Ka," she reasserts her right as one of the country's foremost *kontravidas*. Ernestina has her soft side, though, and is milder than Selina.

Are these roles any similar to her very own character?

"Oh no!" she blurts out. "Princess Punzalan doesn't even shout. I was brought up to be respectful of other people."

People who know Princess well will agree that she is a far cry from her villain roles. Off-camera, Princess is spontaneous, down to earth, softhearted and God-fearing.

And just like anybody, she wishes she can do the things she missed out on: catching up on sleep, running personal errands, going to movies, reading, spending time with family and just taking things easy. If she has the time and means, she would love to go to Aman Pulo to relax. "I would love to buy clothes and accessories or maybe travel around the world with about five friends," she adds.

Missed opportunities? Princess has had her share but she considers them opportunities for growth. She has been liberated from all the buts and what-ifs in her life, mainly because she allows God to take over her life.

"The Lord has been faithful in protecting me while giving me the freedom to choose which way to go," Princess says.

"Ever since I was a child, my mom kept ministering to me through letters and advice," she recalls. "My dad showed me through his testimonies that God will never be unfaithful to me."

Princess admits she was "blind, deaf and crippled" in the past and she is still unsure of the future, of the roles she will play, in real life or in soaps. What is important is that she has found a best friend, constant companion, and counselor in God.

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‘Guilty’ after Rico Yan coverage, ABS-CBN joins tribute to National Artists

SAN PEDRO

CELERIO

DE LA RAMA

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

OUT OF GUILT, ABS-CBN has committed to be part of the grand tribute of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) to National Artists **Honorata "Atang" de la Rama, Lucio San Pedro** and **Levi Celerio**, . after the network's unprecedented and overwhelming coverage of the death and burial of young star **Rico Yan.**

ABS-CBN communications director **Pat-P Daza** admitted that the network, feeling "guilty," decided to play a role in the multi-million-peso production of the tribute, "Lagi Kitang Naaalala."

"We were partly guilty after all the media hype we gave to the funeral of Rico Yan," Pat-P said. "Being part of the tribute is our way of paying back the great artists."

ABS-CBN is co-producing "Lagi Kitang Naaalala" with the CCP and the Management Association of the Philippines. The network will air the star-studded three-night concert-tribute as a TV special and will also promote it on TV and radio.

Thirty-five ABS-CBN artists are set to perform in the concert on Sept. 6, 7 and 8 at the CCP Main Theater.

CCP president **Nes Jardin** admitted that people from cultural circles were disappointed with ABS-CBN's coverage of Rico Yan's funeral.

"Rico Yan's death was almost simultaneous with the deaths of Maestro Lucio San Pedro and Levi Celerio," Jardin pointed out. "But the media coverage given by ABS-CBN to the two National Artists were nothing compared to the one given to Rico Yan."

The performers in "Lagi Kitang Naaalala" include **Celeste Legaspi, Zsa Zsa Padilla, Piolo Pascual, Calvin Millado, Rachel Alejandro, Dulce, Jaya, Elizabeth Ramsey, Carlo Orosa, Robert Seña, Bituin Escalante, Franco Laurel** and **JM Rodriguez.**

Also performing are **Isay Alvarez, Anna Fegi, RJ Rosales, Roselle Nava, Karla Gutierrez, Geneva Cruz, Jeffrey Hidalgo, Tin Arnaldo** and **Dianne de la Fuente, Ciara Sotto, Gabby Eigenmann, Waya Gallardo** and **Emmy Punzalan Cayabyab.**

Directing the concert-tribute is theater's **Chris Millado,** who recently earned raves for his direction fo Tanghalang Pilipino's successful "Insiang."

Millado said the tribute had been planned even before San Pedro and Celerio died.

"We included Atang de la Rama because it is her birth centennial this year," Millado said. "Originally, it was planned for only two nights, but since we decided to do it as a fund-raiser and with the support of ABS-CBN, we added another night.

"We want to present the beautiful gifts that Atang de la Rama, Lucio San Pedro and Levi Celerio had prepared all their lives."

Jardin confirmed that the show had been postponed several times due to logistical constraints. But with the support of ABS-CBN and the Management Association of the Philippines, the show has been made the main event of the CCP's 33rd anniversary.

The tribute has a budget of P5 million and is meant to raise funds for the construction of a National Arts Gallery, which will house a museum for National Artists.

"We want to raise at least P1 million as seed money for the museum, to be built in the large wing of the CCP Complex," Jardin said.

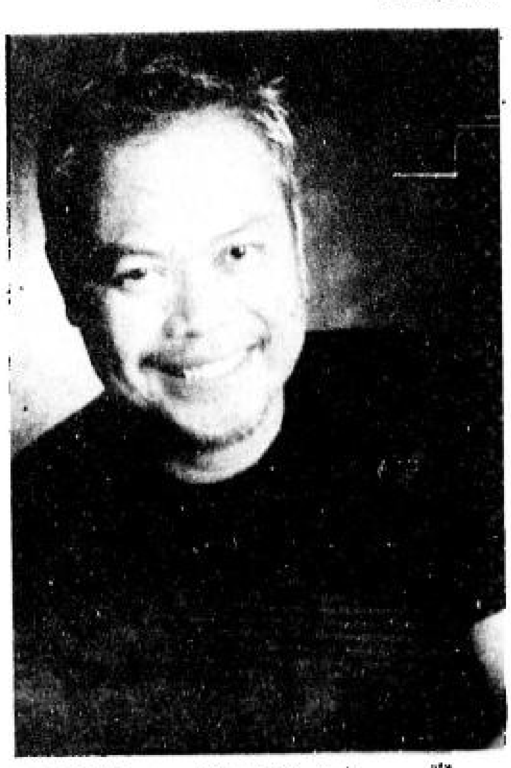
"Lagi Kitang Naaalala" gathers 350 artists, musicians and dancers on a grand, multi-layered stage, designed by **Boni Juan.** There will be a 150-piece orchestra composed of members of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and the Angono Symphonic Band, dancers from Ballet Philippines and Bayanihan, the 70-member UP Boys Choir, the Philippine Madrigal Singers and Tanghalang Pilipino resident performers.

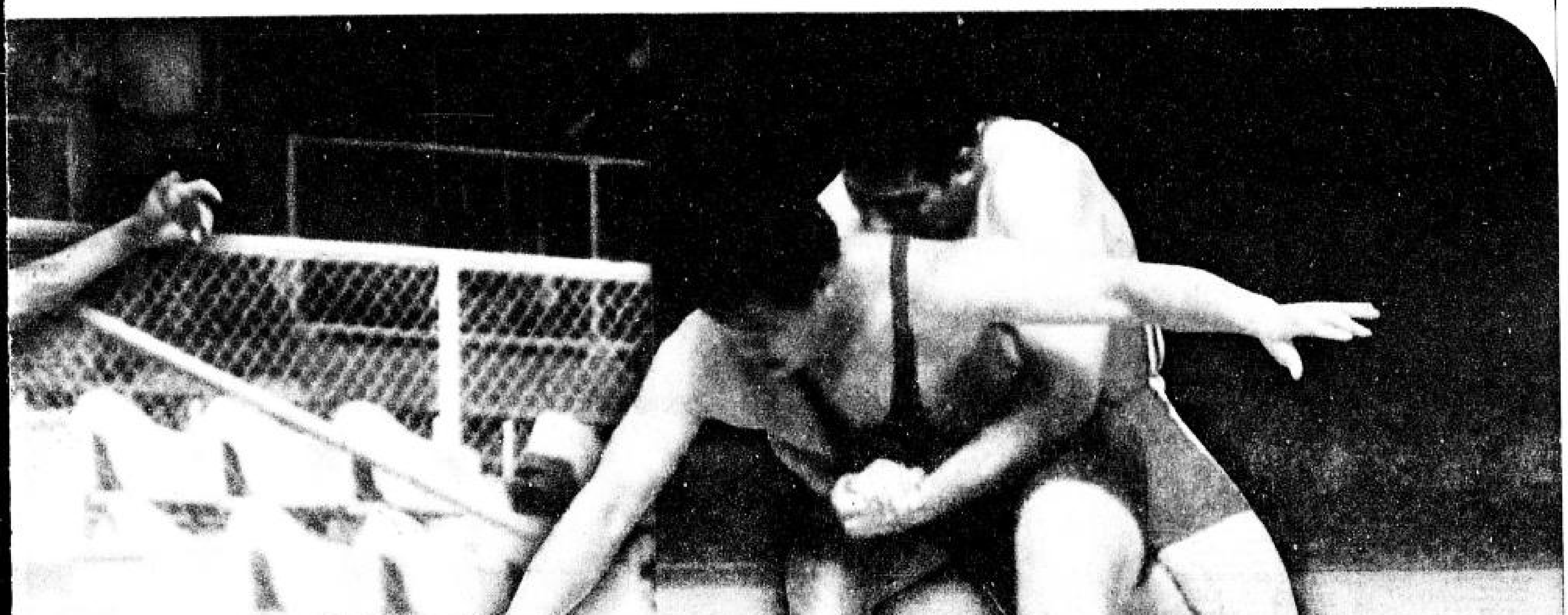
Millado is directing a grand show like this for the first time.

"In the finale, all 350 artists will be onstage singing 'Lagi Kitang Naaalala,' an original Celerio composition," Millado said. "It is very difficult to fit all of them on a majestic stage."

The stage was inspired by Art-Deco and is also a homage to the architects who lived during that period, according to Millado.

'GUILTY' /A28


STAGE director Chris Millado



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‘Guilty’ after Rico Yan coverage . . .

From page A27

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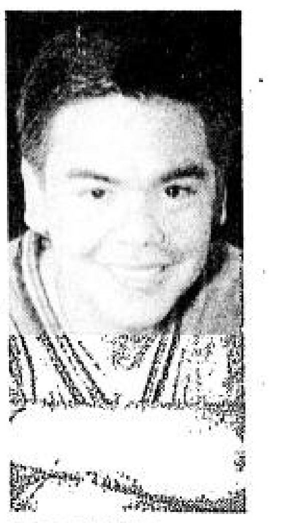
RODRIGUEZ

Construction of the stage is ongoing at the Design Center of the Philippines.

The three-tiered round, floating stage has a huge orchestra loft capable of accommodating 70 people. On both sides are grand staircases, which will allow the artists to do a dramatic walk or the ladies to parade in their gowns.

The artists will perform the original compositions of Celerio like “Ang Pipit,” “Pitong Gatang,” “Kalesa,” “Kung Ako’y Mag-aasawa,” “Gaano Ko Ikaw Kamahal,” “Diligin ng Hamog ang Uhaw ng Lupa,” “Waray-Waray” and “Kahit Konting Pagtingin.”

Excerpts from zarzuelas like “Dalagang Bukid,” “Paglipas ng Dilim” and “Walang Sugat,” where Atang de la Rama sang the compositions of San Pedro, will be performed by the Angono Symphonic Band with the UP Boys Choir and the Philippine Madrigal Singers.

Calvin Millado and **Karla Guevarra** will do operatic arias, while Geneva Cruz will sing Broadway tunes. **Verni Varga** will sing “Bituing Marikit” and Piolo Pascual will do Cipriano in “Dalagang Bukid.”

Tickets are P3,000 for orchestra center and P300 for the balcony seats. Students will be given special discounts and can avail themselves of balcony tickets for as low as P150.

SOTTO

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

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ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
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REMAR	DERAILED
REMAR-2	GAMITAN
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A	GAMITAN
B	JOLOGS
C	
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STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
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CINEMA-2	KILLING ME SOFTLY
CINEMA-3	JOLOGS
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TRIPLE X
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	GAMITAN
CINEMA-6	UNFAITHFUL
CINEMA-7	INSOMNIA
CINEMA-8	JOLOGS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	TRIPLE X
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AUTIN POWERS
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SPIRIT
CINEMA-12	SIGNS
CINEMA-14	DERAILED
CINEMA-15	JOLOGS
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
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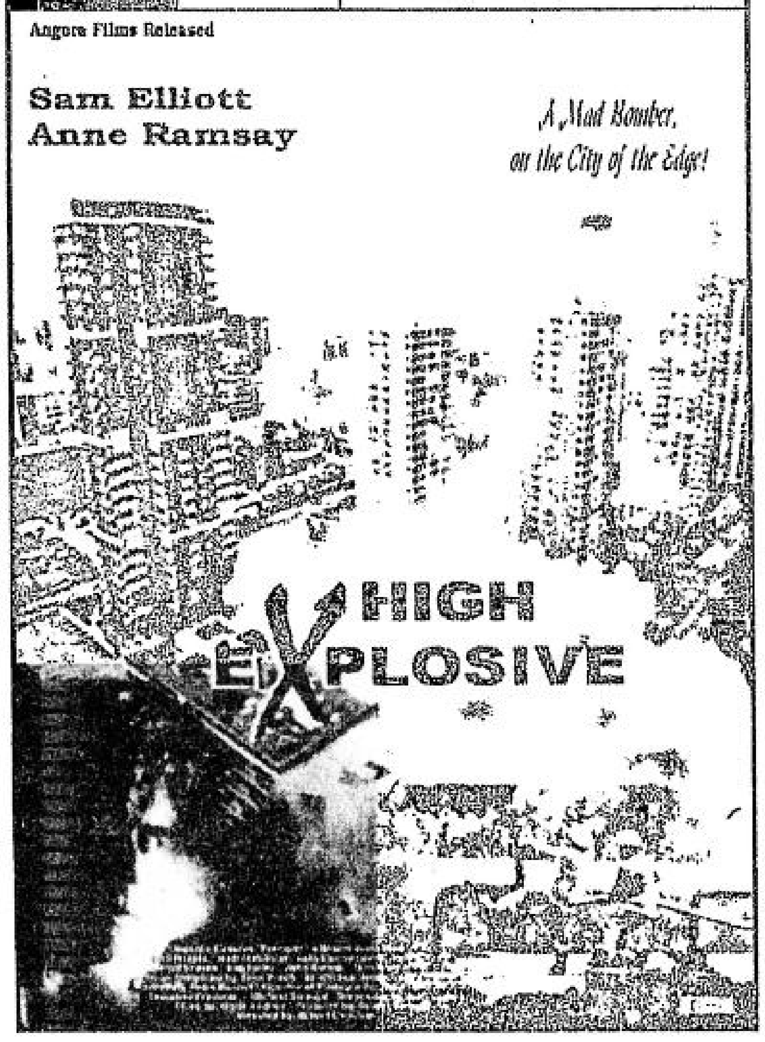
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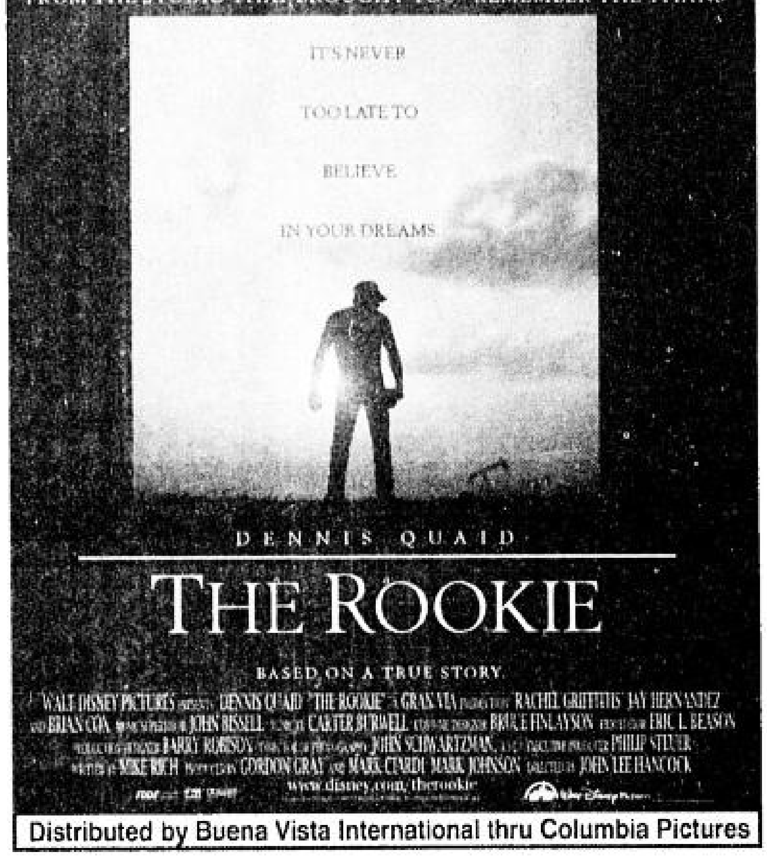
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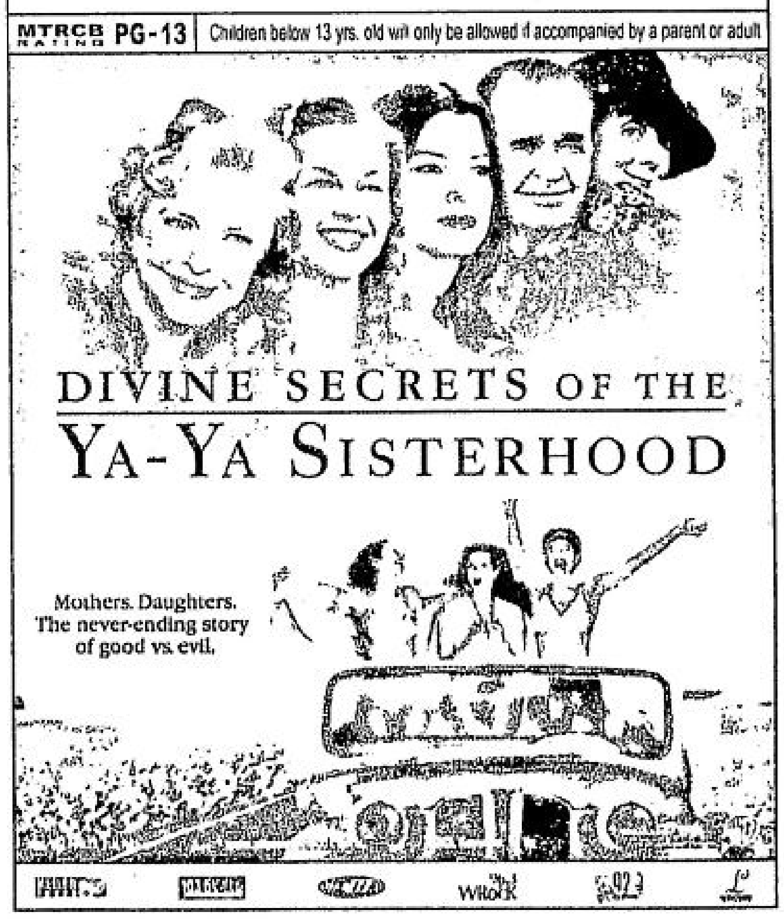
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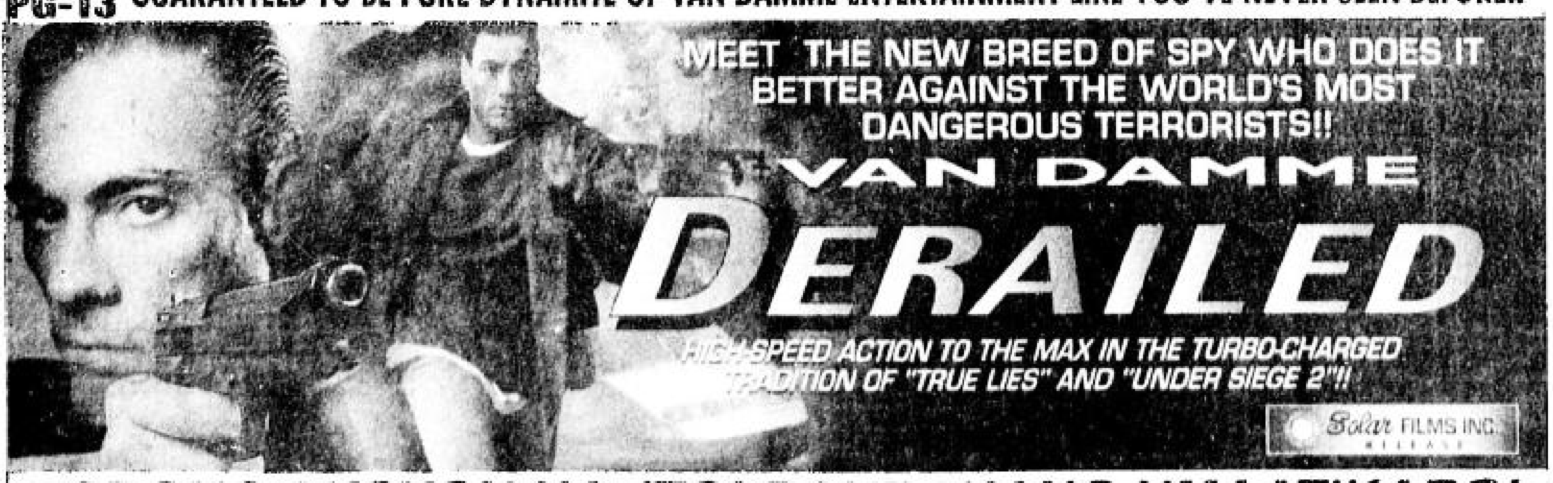
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'JOLOGS'

Six degrees of Kevin Bacon, Pinoy-style

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

REVIEW

FOR THOSE not familiar with "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon," it is a clever game created by American college students. The objective is to connect seemingly remote celebrities in six steps or less to, of course, Kevin Bacon.

For instance: Kirk Douglas starred in "Oscar" with Marissa Tomei; 'Tomei starred with Sissy Spacek in "In the Bedroom"; and Spacek starred in "JFK" with. . .Kevin Bacon.

In a sense, everyone's connected to each other in Hollywood, with a single person that acts as the central figure of a big movie starscape.

In the "real" world, non-celebrities are also connected to each other in one way or another. If one pulls back to a certain perspective that shows the bigger picture, the connections often make absolute sense.

Synchronicity

That's basically the idea behind "Jologs." The audience is given a vantage point that shows the various associations of nearly a dozen characters and their personal foibles and triumphs in a span of a few days.

Gilbert Perez directs Ned Trespeces' story and screenplay (which won Star Cinema's screenwriting contest), a charming film about synchronicity and intertwined existences.

There are several stories, told in parts, that focus on a particular character at a time. One part has Assunta de Rossi's true-blue jolog character pursuing her unattainable *coño* crush (Dominic Ochoa). Another separate story focuses on a *promdi* security guard (Diether Ocampo) and his souring relationship with his japayuki wife (Michelle Bayle).

Done before

These are only four of the numerous characters whose lives intersect with each other in, more often than not, unexpected ways. The fun part is in second-guessing how Person A relates to Person B, and so on, yadda yadda.

It works, due also to the fact that that it's been done before in American movies. There are template movies from which "Jologs" presumably took inspiration.

Quentin Tarantino's "Pulp Fiction" and "Jackie Brown" were told in varying sequences and were focused on as many perspectives as possible to show a vast look at a central event. Paul Thomas Anderson's "Magnolia," Robert Altman's "Short Cuts," and Doug Liman's "Go" also showed simultaneous happenings and coincidences that might as well have been called "God's Eye View" because the audience is made privy to some chain of events set into motion at the same time and at close range.

The audience pretty much adores or despises the characters after several layers of their beings are exposed.

Motivations

"Jologs" does that too, with a mostly young cast and a more, well, relatable scale.

We're presented with very Pinoy situations and personalities. The cash-strapped scholar who works as a coffee shop employee, a Bible-thumping girl who hesitantly explores her sexuality, and the jilted devoted boyfriend are all very familiar fixtures. Each of them is explored in detail, giving profundity to their motivations and reactions.

The dialogue is effective, as people sound different from one another not just because of class, religious beliefs or sexual orientations.

Almost every character is written and projected as an individual, whether the movie defines the term jolog as someone who's culturally-challenged or someone who's true to himself (broken English and all).

One of the most notable performances belongs to Assunta de Rossi. Although she gets trapped in a particular scene that almost desperately tries to tug at heartstrings, her *taklesa* and *kikay* character is enjoyable.

Brave Baron

Another talented actor, Baron Geisler, plays a convincing pick-up transvestite. He's got a trannie's looks and moves down pat. What a brave kid. As Cher, he's one of the more moving presences in the encompassing tapestry.

John Prats as the desperate college student who seeks tuition money from his wealthy, estranged father (Matt Ranillo) is also quite capable. He's a *simpatico* young actor who's very subtle with his craft. Most of the cast pretty much give polished work, a good sign that the actors' workshops they're attending are working.

The film works almost cohesively as a whole, but I just don't understand why they had to worm in certain Channel 2 programs like "Game Ka Na Ba?" and "Pangako Sa 'Yo" through some scenes and dialogue. It just comes off as too much of a hard sell. Also, there are ABS-CBN talents with tiny, irrelevant cameos. They're mostly aimed at the people who follow these *artistas*, and these fans do react to them in the theaters anyway. They cameos are just a bit distracting for me, though.

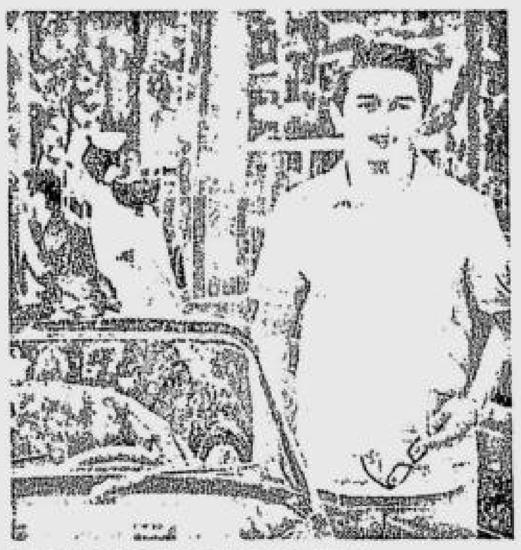
ASSUNTA DE ROSSI. "True blue."

The way the modular chapters coalesce into a climactic finale is decidedly flashy. It could've left off with that high note, but the director opted instead for an epilogue music video where we see the characters lip-synching a remake of After Image's "Next in Line" (which, by the way, reminded me of the actors of "Magnolia" singing along to Aimee Mann's song).

But I respect the filmmaker's decision. Other people seem to enjoy that part because it's a feel-good device that ties many loose ends.

"Jologs" is worth checking out for the collective, sincere effort of everyone involved. It is an interesting take on a concept that's been around for a while. It does paint a believable picture that everybody's bound to cross paths sooner or later.

Yeah, it's a small, small world, but to put it in the movie's context, it's an even smaller country.


DOMINIC OCHOA. "Coño" kid.

JOHN PRATTS. "Simpatico."

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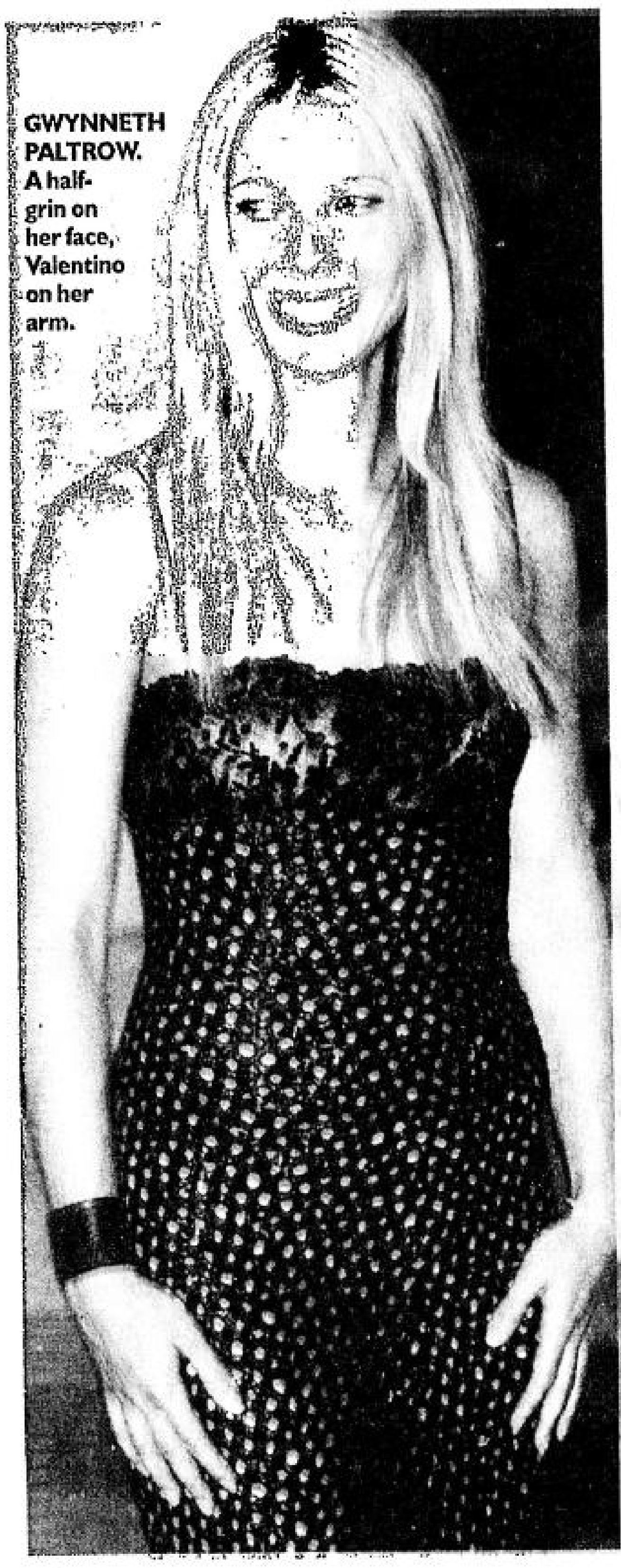
ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

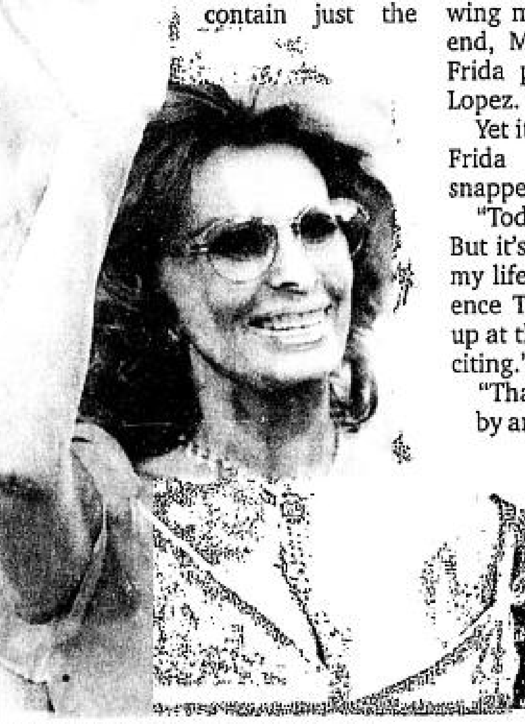


GWYNNETH PALTROW. A half-grin on her face, Valentino on her arm.

Salma Hayek is star of the day at Venice film fest

VENICE, Italy—Sunglass-sporting divas, moguls and hangers-on hopped off their motorboats for the opening of the Venice Film Festival on Thursday, with all shades flipped up to gander at the star of the day: actress Salma Hayek, who was presenting her long-toiled-over biopic "Frida."

Hayek says she woke up every day for years thinking about a film on the Mexican painter Frida Kahlo, whose sometimes sad and peculiar life story seemed to contain just the right combination of elements to never get made.



SOPHIA LOREN. Escorted by her director-son.

"A love story about a hairy woman and a fat man," Hayek said Thursday, listing some of the salient elements of the plot. "They were communists. She was bisexual. It is a period piece.

"It was not attractive to most people."

But eventually the tide turned amid growing public interest in Kahlo's life, her hauntingly surreal self-portraits and her relationship with her husband, the portly left-wing muralist Diego Rivera. In the end, Madonna wanted to make a Frida picture and so did Jennifer Lopez.

Yet it was Hayek who ended up as Frida when the clapper board snapped.

"Today, I'm very happy to be here. But it's not the most exciting day of my life," Hayek told a news conference Thursday. "The day I showed up at the set—that was the most exciting."

"That feeling will not be topped by anything else."

The movie got a high-powered screening Thursday night at the opening gala in the Palazzo del Cinema, which began with a short red-carpet walk of stars, to the delight of hundreds of fans—and the agitation of photographers who begged for poses with shouts of "Gwyneth!" and "Salma!"

SALMA HAYEK. Star of film about a bisexual Mexican painter.

Gwyneth Paltrow turned up with fashion designer Valentino on her arm and a half-grin on her face, while Sophia Loren—who hasn't been to the Venice festival for years—came arm-in-arm with her son Edoardo Ponti, whose feature debut "Between Strangers" premieres here.

It was Hayek, however, who turned up last, and Hayek who drew the most attention.

Her two-hour picture, by longtime theater director Julie Taymor, tells Kahlo's life in Mexico in the early 20th century, and features a mess of stars, including Alfred Molina, Ashley Judd, Geoffrey Rush, Antonio Banderas and Edward Norton, who co-wrote the screenplay.

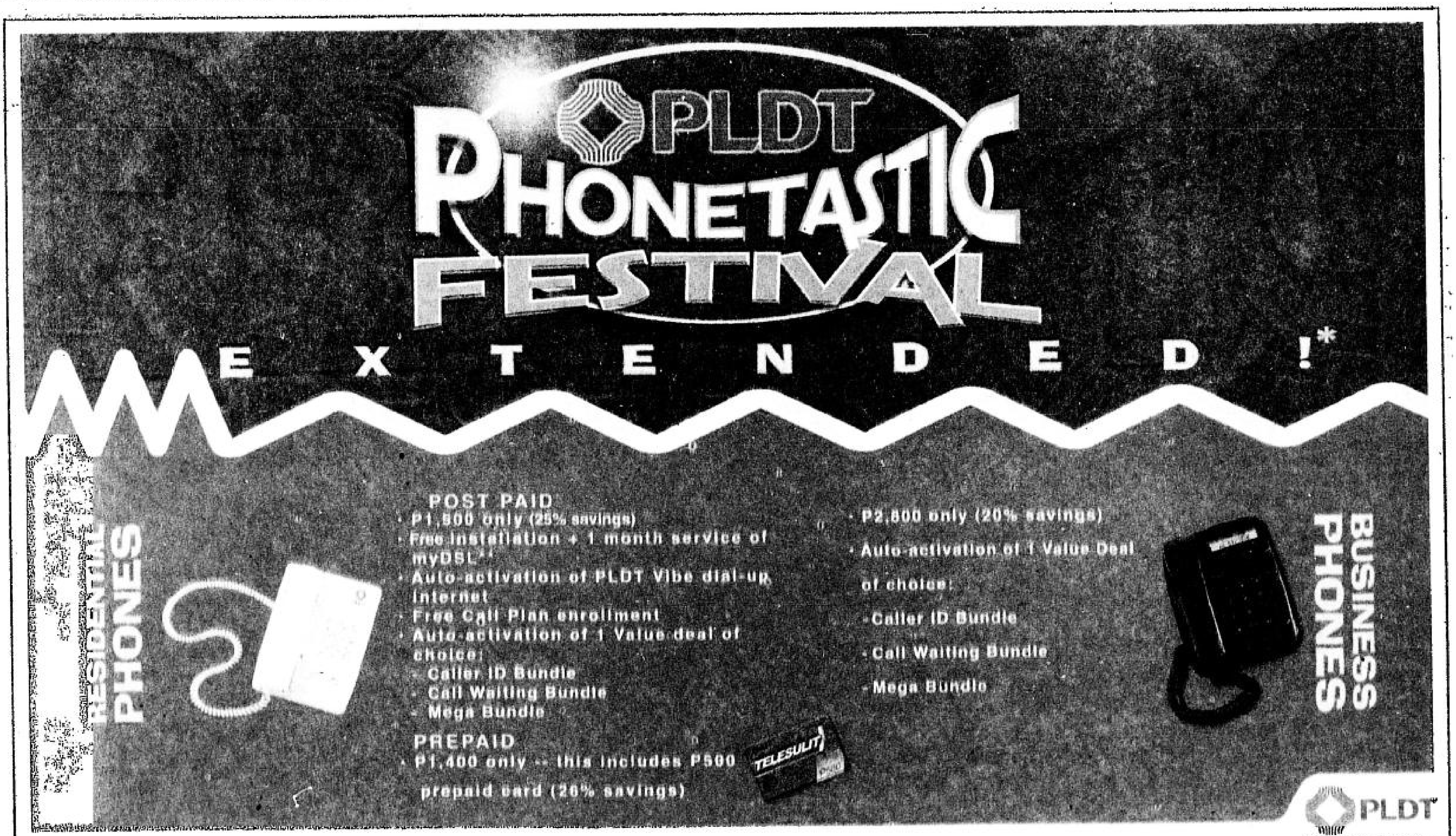
Taymor's dark 1999 film "Titus" made some imagine that "Frida" could turn out a gloomy and inaccessible drama. But she said Thursday that her aim was to make a movie that would be watched and enjoyed by a large audience.

"You have to look for the personal in this story," she said. "It's one of the greatest romantic stories I'd ever come across—that's what attracted me."

The sunglasses may have been turned to "Frida" on Thursday, but film posters plastered around the island reminded of what was to come: more than 75 feature films, from Hollywood to art-house, as well as dozens of shorts and retrospectives.

The Lido was buzzing with action—and most of all with the sound of bicycles zipping by, as black-suit-

SALMA/A25



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Editor Raul O. Marcelo ◎ Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

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CAMEO'S FINE JEWELLERY SINCE 1909

From weaving machine operator to bank president

METROBANK head Antonio S. Abacan Jr. circa 1980. (Inset) Abacan today

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

HIS parents earned a living out of working with gold and precious metals. Unfortunately, they could not even hope to have these treasures for themselves or for their family as they made just enough to put food on the table and clothes on their backs.

Any dream of getting a college degree, the children had to pursue themselves.

FIRST JOB

And this was what Antonio S. Abacan Jr., president of the Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., had in mind when he took on the job as a weaving machine operator of a textile mill in his hometown of Meycauayan, Bulacan, at 15 years old.

"I got the minimum wage of P4 a day at that time in 1958 and the good thing about it was that there was a shuttle bus outside the factory that went to Doroteo Jose in Manila. That was why I chose to go to the Mapua Institute of Technology where I was a partial scholar," Abacan tells the Inquirer in an interview.

Abacan took up banking and finance because he thought it was the quickest way to get a job after graduation. He went to school in the evenings when he was assigned to the first eight-hour shift, and in the mornings when he was working the late shift.

FROM/B2

Pili venture prospers on faith

By Emir E. Gamis
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

IROSIN, Sorsogon—Among the things that the Bicol Region is famous for, is the pili, dubbed by the Department of Agriculture as the "flagship commodity of Bicol."

In Sorsogon, where it is considered as the "high commodity champion," a Pili Festival is held annually every June 29, recognizing the numerous industrial, commercial, environmental, medicinal and nutritional uses of the "majestic tree."

For Jose and Vicky Navarro, owners of Vicky's Pili, their belief in what pili could offer took them out of poverty. Their business that started as a three-bottle endeavor has grown into the biggest processor of pili in the second district of Sorsogon.

After Edsa

Vicky's Pili started a little after the Edsa revolution in 1986, after the couple attended a livelihood seminar sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry and was convinced by a speaker who took pride of his own profitable investment in pili.

Jose remembered well the speaker's words: "If you want to be a millionaire, invest in pili."

Soon, they were making conserva or pili kernel coated with treacle that they put inside three bottles of Lady's Choice and sold together with packs of cigarettes, *nilagang mais* (boiled corn) and *sinapot* (fried banana) in their rented barong-barong beside the Philtranco terminal in Irosin. Sometimes they would pay children to hawk the confectionery to passengers of Philtranco.

"The highest sale we could get then was P17," Jose said.

Mastering the cooking of conserva alone took them two years They also make other pili confections like honeyed crispy pili, buding, mazapan, white and brown sugar-coated pastillas de pili, pastillas de leche, tablea and nougat.

Navarro said his wife learned by sampling other makers' products and making her own.

Their products gradually gained prominence among passengers of Philtranco who would ask for buding, conserva and coated pili, the initial products of Vicky's.

As orders grew, the couple traveled in neighboring towns where they buy pili nuts "by hundreds."

Test

But a hard test came when typhoon "Sisang" destroyed their store in 1987.

"Even our rice field was covered with sand," Navarro recalled.

With their money spent for rebuilding their store, they were left with P70 and two sacks of *lagting*, pili nut still encased in its shell, to start all over again.

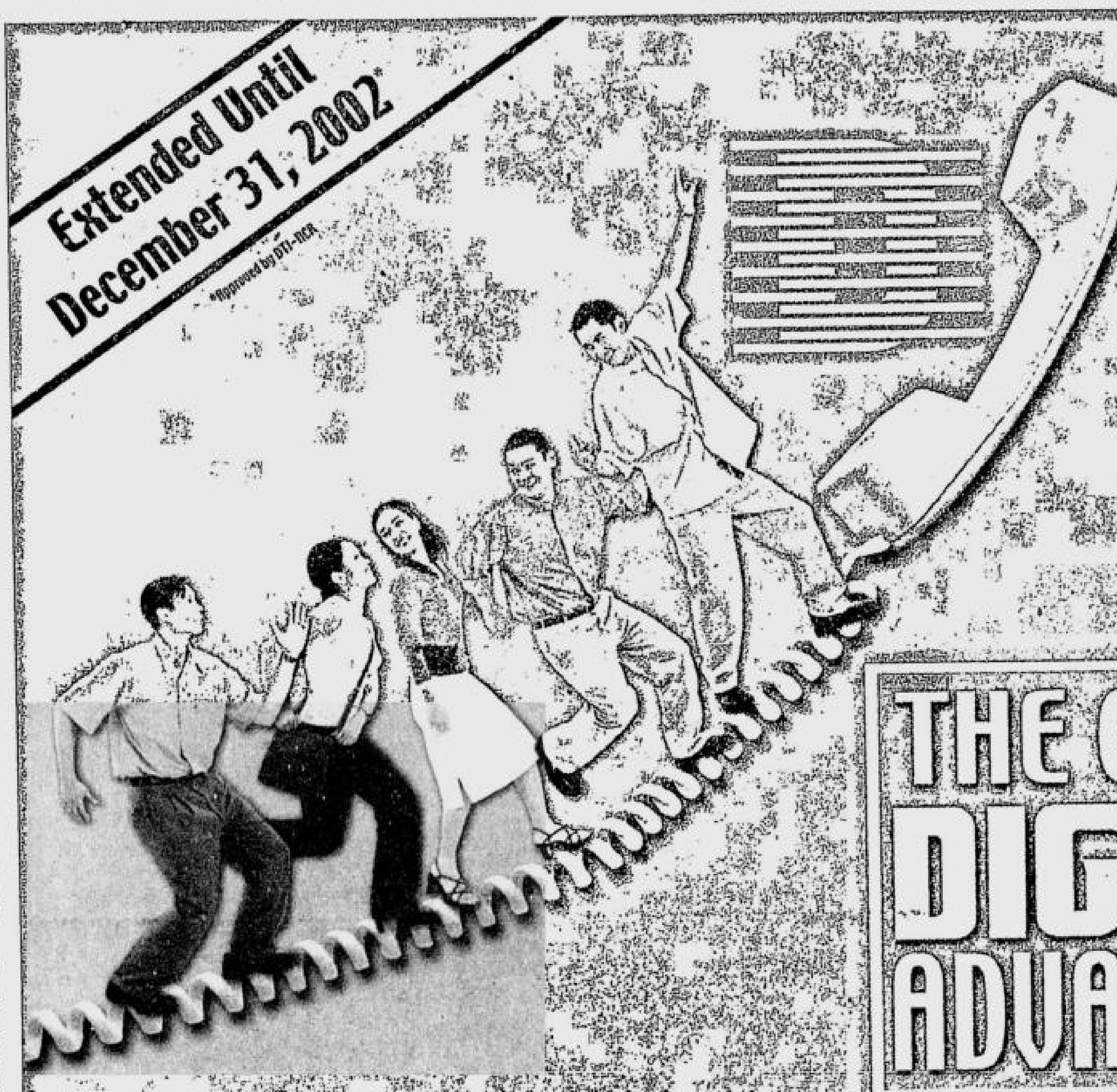
With lots of hard work and sacrifice, their business slowly grew again and took an expanding market as they met consumers through trade fairs they attended in different parts of the country.

Later, to cope with the increasing supply of pili being sold to them and the consistent demand from buyers, they got loans from several banks.

Today, Vicky's was a far cry from its diffi-

PILI/B2

VICKY'S Pili store in Albay



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See posters for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1341 Series of 2002

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E-mail: tgdu@digitel.ph
Giving Voice To Luzon.
A JG Summit Company

Pili venture prospers on faith

From page B1

cult start. From delicacies that catered to Irosanons and Philtranco passengers alone, it is now a regular supplier of pili confections and kernels to other similar processors in the Bicol Region and numerous business establishments in Metro Manila.

Their lagting lasts for even a year, said Navarro, that's why even pili processors themselves take orders from him. The highest order of just one customer is sometimes worth more than half a million pesos, he said.

Although they are still renting their shop now, the *barong-barong* has become a concrete two-story store that sells delicacies and pili concentrate-swine feeds derived from the dregs after the extraction of oil from pili pulp.

The butchers like the pig fed with pili concentrate because of its "good meat," Navarro said.

A machine (depulper) obtained through a grant from Department of Science and Technology has relieved them of manually removing the pulp from pili.

"For three years I have been manually removing pulp from pili mellowed in drums with water. Even our bed reeked of pili then. When I could not do it anymore I used a paddling wheel wrapped with metal screen with an opening where I put the pili and rotate it," Navarro recalled.

The machine they got has a capacity to depulp about 400 sacks of pili a day but due to lack of manpower they only depulp 100 sacks every two days, he said. Navarro also hopes to buy a new truck next year to augment the capacity of the two jeeps they now use to carry pili from their store in Irosin to Barangay Gulang-gulang, where the depulper and the oil extractor are locate.

The truck would also help them pick up pili from several buying stations in neighboring towns.

Faith

The couple's success may also be attributed to a different business approach and a lot of faith in the pili business' potentials.

"Before, I look at other pili businesses as rivals and competitors but I have discovered that they are actually my associates. Now, we want more planters and more processors to help each other," Navarro said.

He said their raw materials and capital are not yet enough to venture into exporting pili. "That's why massive plantation is needed."

"Pili, by the word itself means chosen, chosen tree," said Navarro, enumerating several other uses of the fruit, the pulp oil that is rich in beta-carotene, and shell as fuel in oil mills and a potential ingredient for making chairs and other furniture.

"It will take millions to build a feed mill, obtain a machine for oil extraction and beta-carotene separation. In the pigpen we have established, our cost is 40 percent for feeds as compared to 70-80 percent cost of other pigpens. It shows that those who will use the feeds from pili pulp will profit more," according to Navarro.

"Time will come when we will have products that the others won't have. My capital is not yet enough to set up all the equipment because my money is just enough for the utilization of kernels but I'm not losing hope," he said.

For those who will invest in pili, Navarro advised: They should be patient and innovative.

From someone who has gone the hard ways, that certainly was given with sincerity and faith.

The "depulper" removes the pulp from pili.

Handicapped finds fortune in growing miniature trees

Michael B. Jaucian
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LIGAO CITY—Being lame is not a deterrent to success.

This has become the guiding principle in the life of Nelson Porcalla, 38 years old and a polio victim. And with this in min—coupled with hard work, patience and a lot of creativity—he has proven that a physically handicapped person like him can be successful in business even with the absence of a college degree.

Porcalla, who hails from Barangay Binatagan, Ligao City, is a nature lover and a famous bonsai artist in Albay province.

His hobby is collecting tree specimens from the mountains, which he transforms into bonsai trees.

With just P2,000 capital, he started a buy-and-sell business in 1987 but later turned his hobby into a thriving business venture.

Buy and sell

Born to a poor family, hardship was no stranger to Porcalla, who is the third in the brood of seven. The untimely death of his father forced him to quit studying to give way to his other siblings' education. He carried the responsibility of supporting his family, even with his physical condition.

Porcalla was only able to finish high school but his lack of college education did not deter him from starting a business of his own. In 1987, Porcalla, then 21, started his buy and sell business with capital that he borrowed from a friend.

He dealt in body accessories like wristwatch and fancy jewelry. Porcalla sold these items in fiesta celebrations in the island provinces of Masbate, Samar and Catanduanes, as well as island municipalities like Rapu-Rapu Island in Albay. He also took the opportunity to buy other items in these areas for sale in other places.

With his modest income, he was able to help his mother send his brother and sisters to high school and college. Some of his siblings are now educators and employed in big companies in Manila.

Hobby

"I am a nature lover. Every time I visit a place, I climb its mountain, if there is, to find peace of mind," Porcalla said.

MINIATURE tree lover and artist, Nelson Porcalla. "Being lame is no hindrance to becoming successful."

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL JAUCIAN

In the mountain, not only has he been able to find solace, but he has also developed the hobby of collecting tree specimens that he turns into bonsai trees.

And so whenever he goes mountain climbing, he sees to it that he brings with him some tree specimens for his hobby. From there, he began perfecting his craft.

His bonsai business started when he first met Rev. Fr. Joe Apin, parish priest of Balogo Church in Oas town, and Star Altaheros, branch manager of the Philam Life Insurance Co. in Naga City.

Porcalla said Altaheros appreciated the art and beauty of his bonsai plants and promised him that he would convince some of his friends to buy from his collections.

Altaheros proved to be a very good advertiser for Porcalla's business. He introduced Porcalla to Bibi De Guzman and Onti Enrile, both Chinese businessmen and bonsai collectors, who became his first buyers.

De Guzman initially bought 10 pieces of his bonsai collection and paid him P50,000 while Enrile paid him P40,000 for six bonsai plants.

According to Porcalla, the two Chinese businessmen hired him as their bonsai artist. He visits their gardens in Naga City every month.

De Guzman and Enrile became Porcalla's loyal customers and brought him many clients.

Porcalla said his bonsai plant buyers are general practitioners in medicine, surgeons, priests and businessmen coming all the way from Metro Manila and other provinces in the country.

Japanese art

Bonsai is often referred to as the Japanese art of miniature trees. It, however, originated in China.

Bonsai came from the Chinese word *pun-sai* (with emphasis on "sai," pronounced as "sigh"). It was exported to Japan nearly 500 years ago.

Among the first bonsai species that Porcalla had were bantigue, which he found along the seashores in Aroroy, Masbate; agoho and podocarpus, which he got from Rapu-Rapu Island in Albay.

Since Porcalla's space was insufficient to accommodate all his bonsai plants, Ariel Alsua, son of board member Ramon Alsua of the third district of Albay, offered a place and proposed to become his partner, which he eventually accepted.

Their enterprise, the Handmark Garden, is situated at Barangay Tuburan, a two-minute drive from Ligao City proper.

At present the partnership sells bonsai species such as podocarpus, pine, agoho, callos, balite, kamuning, bantigue, yellow dogie and a lot more.

He said, the cheapest bonsai is P500 and the most expensive could cost up to a P150,000, depending on the style, age size, height and the art of bonsai.

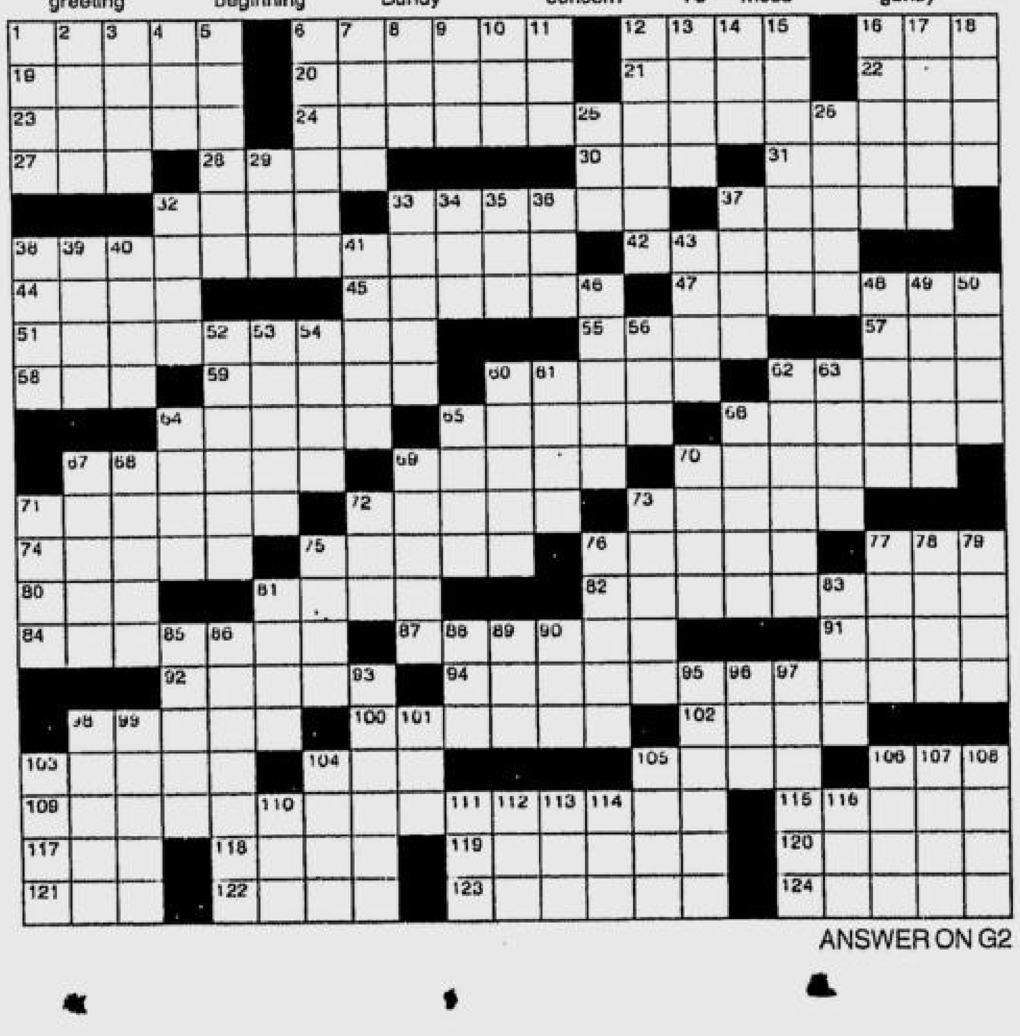
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

LABOR LOST

ACROSS
1 Fowl family
6 Drag before a judge
12 Rock's partner
16 Barbecue leftover
19 Bar hop?
20 Tchaikovsky's "— Onegin"
21 Butter sub
22 Hwy.
23 Column style
24 Start of a remark
27 Pressure meas.
28 Skinny
30 Hamburger holder
31 Tinker Bell or Titania
32 Head for the hills
33 Malone's portrayer
37 Strong guys
38 Part 2 of remark
42 Agricultural inventor
44 Rabbit relative
45 Pressed
47 Rock's Loggins & —
51 "Evita" setting
55 Villainous
57 Travel need
58 Street greeting
59 Sylvan setting
60 Run a meeting
62 Tremble
64 Fully grown
65 Revolutionary writer
66 Made a face
67 Juicy pear
69 Part 3 of remark
70 Sent to Sing Sing
71 January stoat
72 Military headgear
73 Comic
74 Rental agreement
75 Like some signals
76 — boom
77 Envelope code
80 Big —
81 Falafel holder
82 Method
84 Bit of wit
87 Narrow passage
91 Literary pseudonym
92 Some jeans
94 Part 4 of remark
98 Stage whisper
100 Summit
102 Big beginning
103 Circe's suitors
104 Alternative to nothing
105 Kirk's navigator
106 Short snooze
109 End of remark
115 Sun-dried brick
117 Likable prez
118 Butte
119 Audrey Tautou role
120 Type of orange
121 Litter sound
122 Appear to be
123 Hole grain food?
124 Calm down

DOWN
1 Radar presence
2 Bravo and Grande
3 Start of everything?
4 Sapporo sash
5 Compliant
6 Farm youngster
7 Car
8 "That's disgusting!"
9 Fire sign
10 Burmese statesman
11 Mrs. Al Bundy
12 Portly
13 Ken or Lena
14 Author Wallace
15 Leisure lovers
16 Comic Auerbach
17 No-nonsense
18 Actress Lamarr
25 Where Sopranos shouldn't sing?
26 They'll never hurt me!
29 Born
32 Liberate
33 Half a rock group
34 From — Z
35 Diarist Anais
36 Canonized Mile.
37 Pump part
38 Ultimate whale watcher
39 Author John Dickson —
40 Southern constellation
41 French psychologist
43 Gulf ruler
46 Martin and Stockwell
48 PR concern
49 Missing more than mittens
50 Imitated
52 Novelist Gordimer
53 Armistice
54 Keep the pedal off the metal
56 Compete
60 Was concerned
61 Subtle taste
62 Marmalade fruit
63 Unlikely to allure
64 Benoit's buddies
65 Unadulterated
66 Frenzied
67 Inch along
68 Muscat native
69 Mavericks' state
70 Doyenne deity
71 Czech river
72 Got scammed
73 Onward
75 "La Boheme" heroine
76 Ill will
77 South African native
78 2001 Judi Dench film
79 — moss
81 Macadamize
83 — vu
85 Spark in the dark
86 Uses frequent flier miles
88 In addition
89 Carpet
90 Demolished dessert
93 Saudi salutation
95 Inspires a smile
96 — Aviv
97 Exotic pet
98 Cease the z's
99 Tendon
101 Thickness
103 Do laps
104 Chartres part
105 Vaudeville bit
106 Salmon snack
107 Assist a felon
108 Soccer superstar
110 Ruby or Sandra
111 Arch. tool
112 Med. insurer
113 Sundown, to Shelley
114 Actor Gulager
116 Apply gently



ANSWER ON G2

From weaving machine . . .

From page B1

He manned the weaving machine for two years and on his third year he was made a clerk, a position he held until he finished a degree in Business Administration.

"I was transferred to the accounting department when I graduated but fortunately or unfortunately, the mill went on strike so I lost my job. It was at that time that I wrote to the Daily Mirror to answer a blind ad that just said a banking institution was looking for people," he says.

Better things

The bank that placed in 1965 turned out to be Metrobank and Abacan got the chance to work for the bank as a clerk in the international department.

Abacan, however, was meant for better things than just typing invoices in the international department. His propensity for hard work and honesty worked in his favor, and he got the chance to prove himself able to handle bigger responsibilities as he went up the ranks.

From a clerk at 22 years old, Abacan became president of Metrobank subsidiary Philippine Savings Bank some 20 years later and was eventually elected to the presidency of Metrobank in 1992.

"I really believe that luck also played a role in my career. How else could I explain how I was given the chance to prove myself to do a good job when there were a lot of other people that my superiors could have chosen to do the same job," Abacan says.

Right attitude

Colleagues at the bank, however, say that Abacan got the plum position to be president of the country's largest bank because of his attitude and outlook on life which he says he got from his parents, particularly his father Antonio Sr.

His father only reached Grade 4, could hardly read and write but gave his second son lessons that were more precious than the jewelry that he made.

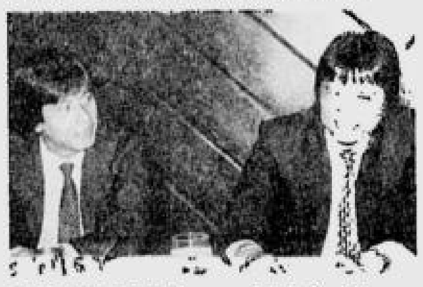
"He taught us the golden rule, that we should not do harm to our fellow man. He also told us to work hard, to never forget the Lord and thank him for all the blessings. These are all basic things but these lessons I still keep in mind even now," Abacan says.

Reading

Abacan says his father also encouraged him and his siblings to read. It was a practice, he says, that he adopted and passed on to his three children.

"I was fortunate because I went to school with Jackie Po so I got to read books in Popular Bookstore which his family owned. I continue to read now because if I don't, I would be left behind. I read mostly business books because it is part of my profession," Abacan says.

ABACAN and his wife Mary Jane



A YOUNGER Abacan (right) with colleague Peter Favila

ABACAN and his wife with his parents and daughter, Mary Ann

Abacan adds that his father also told him that he should never live beyond his means. He says this attitude suits his life as a banker, who is supposed to be conservative because he handles other people's money.

"I can still remember him telling us that we should love money but should not worship it," he adds.

This outlook has helped Abacan foster close relationships with his employees, a number of whom used to be his bosses, because they know that Abacan has remained a *probinsiyano*.

"I have never been blinded by my position because as far as I am concerned, we are all employees, we are all here to do a job. I have no problem with the executives, somehow we feel like one big happy family even if we have grown so big," Abacan says.

The key, he says, to getting people to work towards a goal and achieving it is to lead by example, and he says everything starts from having a happy family.

"I am glad that I have a happy family and that my wife, Mary Jane, understands my position. I believe that a good family life plays an important part in my success because I believe that if I have problems at home and then add on to problems in the office, I will lose my mind," he says.

Abacan adds that people might question a person's ability to head a big organization if he does not have a good family life.

"I do not want people to say how can he be a good leader if he can not even manage his own family. This is what I tell my people, which is why I always bring my wife to functions of the bank. I want to bring home the message that family is important," Abacan says.

Family for Abacan includes his wife, sons Jose Mari and Jeffrey and daughter Mary Ann, siblings who all became professionals and his feisty 86-year-old mother who is still strong enough to want her children around her.

Abacan also says that he never forgot to thank God for his blessings and to share what he has learned with his employees and children.

"I tell them that they should pray a lot because you can't be anything without it and to focus on a goal and sacrifice enough to do it. If there is a need to work extra hours at work, then do it. You have to be dedicated to a cause," he says.

Recognizing founders and out-of-box thinkers

LILIA Morales, Myrna Garcia, Encar Ordoñez, Tony Gloria, Greg Garcia, FPJ, and Louie Morales.

MINYONG Ordonez with Emily Abrera.

JJ Calero

JOHNIP Cua of P&G

JON Hechanova, of Toyota

KIMBERLY Clark president and CEO Robert E. Tober and marketing director Digna Santos

GRACE Castano, of Johnson & Johnson Phils.

ANTONIO Cantero

HOWARD Belton of Unilever

THE ADVERTISING industry took time off last Thursday to give recognition to the pioneers of the advertising industry; those who have displayed out-of-the-box thinking; and the top ad spenders in the country.

First to be recognized were the founding fathers of the Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies of the Philippines.

These were Pedro Teodoro (deceased), chair of Philprom advertising; Antonio Zorilla (deceased), president of Pacific Publicity Bureau; Louie Morales, VP, Philippine Advertising Counselors; Lyle Little, board secretary, J. Walter Thompson; Luisita David (deceased) treasurer, Great Wall Advertising.

Maximo Ramos (deceased) corporate comptroller, Aspac Communicators; Antonio Cantero, director, The Marketing Communciations Group; Quintin Pastrana, director, Asia Communications Center; Emil Misa, director, The Motivators.

The 25 advertising mavericks chosen by the industry were Emily Abrera, Severo Alcantara, Ben Aniceto, Eugenia Apostol, James Black.

Lino Brocka (deceased), Javier J. Calero, Ben Chan, Rosie Chew, Freddie Garcia, Gregg Garcia, Tony Gloria.

Mon and Abby Jimenez, Minda Lansang, Gerry de Leon (deceased).

Euganio Lopez Jr. (deceased), Antonio Mercado (deceased), Louie Morales, Yoly V. Ong, Herminio Ordoñez, Socorro Ramos, Johnny Santos, Tony Tan, Pedro Teodoro (deceased). Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala .

In determining the top 25 advertisers in the Philippines (there were a 100 companies nominated) the criteria included the size of the advertising business; consistency in upholding the principles of creative excellence in advertising; and adherence to the code of ethics of the Advertising Board of the Philippines.

The top advertisers were San Miguel Corp., PLDT, Unilever Inc., Procter & Gamble Phils., Jollibee Foods Inc., McGeorge Food Industries/McDonald's Phils., Coca-Cola Bottlers Inc., Coca-Cola Export Phils. Inc., Colgate-Palmolive Phils., Inc.

Nestle Phils. Inc., Globe Telecom, Johnson & Johnson Phils., Del Monte, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Pfizer Inc., Ayala Land Inc., Wyeth Phils. Inc., Pepsi Cola Products Phils. Inc., Universal Robina Corp., Bristol-Myers Squibb Phils Inc./Mead Johnson, Bayer Philippines, Kraft Foods Phils. Corp., Kimberly-Clark Phils., Inc., Toyota Motor Phils. Corp., White Hall Pharmaceutical Phils.

SUBWAY™

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Doctor's Associates Inc. is the exclusive holder of the SUBWAY® trademark in the Philippines. It has licensed its right to franchise the SUBWAY® Trademark to Subway International B.V. Thus, Subway International B.V. is exclusive franchisor of Subway® Sandwich stores in the Philippines.

Doctor's Associates Inc. and Subway International B.V. hereby inform the public that the Franchise Agreements with the franchisees, spouses Jose Orlando G. Javier and Arnida Arrieta Javier over store # 16639 at 229 Katipunan Road, Quezon City and store # 20280 at Level 4 Robinsons Galleria Mall, Edsa corner Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City have been terminated by virtue of an Arbitration Award rendered by the International Arbitration Tribunal of the American Arbitration Association on 27 November 2001. The Arbitration Award has been confirmed by virtue of a Judgment rendered by the United States District Court of Connecticut on 9 July 2002.

The franchises over these stores were terminated, among others, for failure to operate the same in compliance with the standards in respect of formulas, product preparation and freshness as required by the Franchise Agreements.

The public is further notified that the following establishments holding themselves out as legitimate SUBWAY® stores are operating without a franchise and therefore without authority:

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2) Ground Floor, Theater Mall, Greenhills, San Juan Metro Manila

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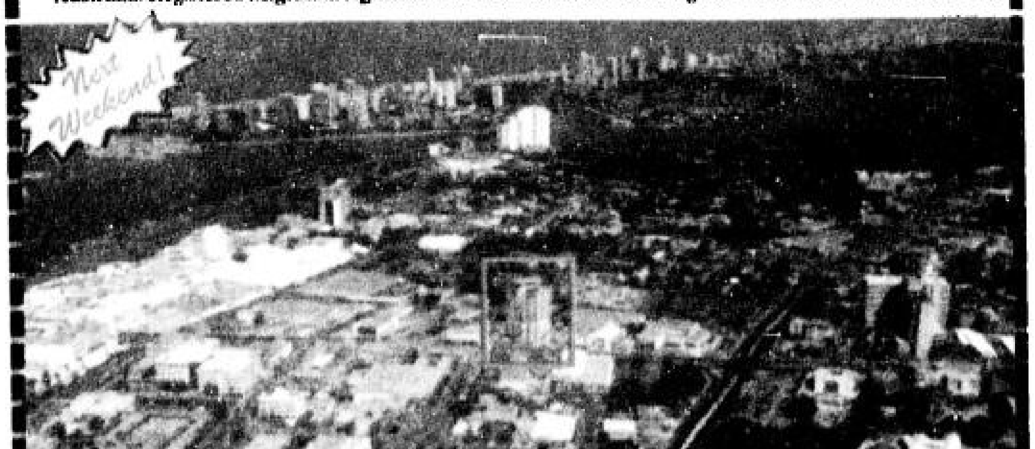
- Registered Migration Agent from Australia to explain your situation and strategies on how best to migrate to Australia. Registered Migration Agent Number: 9901644 / Member Migration Institute of Australia (817).



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Fax: (+632) 522-1090
E-mail: secretariat@seagig2002.org
Website: www.seagig2002.org

FEATURED INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

- Dr. Ivan Goldberg (Australia)
- Dr. George Spaeth (USA)
- Dr. Paul Palmberg (USA)
- Dr. William Stewart (USA)
- Dr. Albert Weijland (USA)
- Dr. Prin Rojanapongpun (Thailand)
- Dr. Ravi Thomas (India)
- Dr. Tetsuya Yamamoto (Japan)
- Dr. Michael Berlin (USA)
- Dr. Robert Ritch (USA)
- Dr. Paul Chew (Singapore)
- Dr. Yoshiaki Kitazawa (Japan)
- Dr. Robert Stamper (USA)
- Dr. Hoh Sek-Tien (Singapore)
- Dr. John K.H. Chua (Hong Kong)
- Dr. Gerhard Zinser (Germany)
- Dr. Steve K.L. Seah (Singapore)
- Dr. G.C. Sekhar (India)

Libya Celebrates NATIONAL DAY

Grace Penales, Account Manager

Aries Espinosa, Editor

The Great Jamahiriya (Libya) played a significant role in the Philippines, particularly in rehabilitating war-torn areas of Mindanao

THE MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES OF

WERR CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

join the Filipino people in wishing

**The Great Socialist People's
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya**

A BLISSFUL

**33rd Anniversary
of the
Al-Fateh Revolution**

01 SEPTEMBER 2002

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GALAXY

GALAXY SERVICES, INCORPORATED
SUITE 203 STATE CONDOMINIUM IV, ORTIGAS AVE.
1503 GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

Greetings!

We at Galaxy Services, Inc. join His Excellency and the staff of the People's Bureau of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Manila in commemorating the **33rd Anniversary of the AL FATEH Revolution** of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamarihaya.

Mabuhay

Greetings from:

MPL International Corporation
Second Floor Victoria Building, 429
U.N. Avenue, Ermita, Manila
Tel. Nos. 526-0891, 526-0984

Congratulations

**To the
Great Socialist People's
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
on the Occasion
of its** *33rd Anniversary of the*
AL FATEH REVOLUTION

Libya sees promise in trade relations with RP

TO COMMEMORATE over three decades of First September Revolution, Libya holds its National Day today throughout the world. Libyan Leader Muammar Al-Qadhafi is expected to give a speech to highlight one of the most important dates in the history of Libya.

Libyan Ambassador to the Philippines Dr. Salem M. Adam will host a dinner for dignitaries, diplomats, and representatives from other countries' embassies at the Hotel Intercon tonight on the occasion of Libya's 33rd anniversary of the First September Revolution.

The Great Jamahiriya (Libya) played a significant role in the Philippines, particularly in rehabilitating war-torn areas of Mindanao. "Libya tries to contribute to the development of Mindanao through the efforts of the Islamic Fund in the Organization of Islamic Conference, also with the help of other Muslim countries," Adam said.

Helping Mindanao

Libya had lined up several livelihood projects to help Mindanao get back to its feet. Adam believes that given the chance, and the resources, Mindanao is capable of moving forward both economically and politically. "I think Mindanao is a good place for the Philippines for development, for everything," he said. Some of the projects will be implemented by the Al-Qadhafi foundation while the others will come from the Islamic fund, as well as from individual countries of OIC.

The Philippine government had sought the help of Libya to curb terrorism especially in the south. In a news item, which came out early this year, President Macapagal was quoted as saying; "Libya gave economic assistance in vulnerable areas." One such assistance is the Liguasan Project in Central Mindanao.

RP-Libya relations were further strengthened when the latter helped bring peace to Mindanao through the peace agreement being forged between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. "I think we are preparing the final and comprehensive agreement which will take place anytime before the end of the year either in Libya or in Malaysia, or in other OIC countries," Adam said.

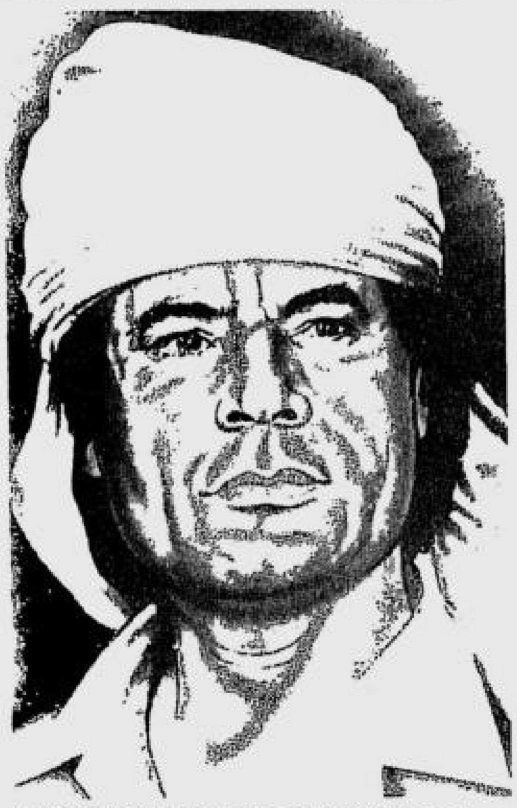
African Union

In the international scene, Al-Qadhafi succeeded in creating the newly formed African Union. This, so far, has been Al-Qadhafi's biggest achievement this year, according to Adam. He also said it was the idea of the Leader a long time ago and its fulfillment would benefit the whole African nation and people. The Leader's vision to improve Africa's condition will soon be realized. "The mission (of the Union) is to protect Africa from disputes; and to bring all factions together both economically and politically," Adam, who recently finished his Ph.D. from the University of the Philippines, said.

Libya has a strong belief in the economic recovery of the Philippines. "We look forward to strengthen our relations (with the Philippine government) especially in trade and business," Adam said. Last month the secretary general of the world Islamic society encouraged huge investments in Europe, Africa and Asia.

Photo by BETOY JOHNSON

LIBYAN People's Bureau Manila Secretary, Dr. Salem Adam.


A PORTRAIT of the Leader, Muammar Al-Qadhafi.

MESSAGE

ON THE OCCASION of the 33rd anniversary of the First September Revolution, I extend our warmest greetings to the great people of the Republic of the Philippines.

This year, there are important milestones in the foreign relations of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (GSPLAJ), which I want to share. Firstly, last July 9, 2002, the African Union was founded as an *"indiginized"* African-based institutional mechanism to fight poverty, disease, ignorance and underdevelopment that have for centuries befallen Africa. This historic development was inspired by the Great Leader of the First September Revolution, Col. Muammar Al-Qadhafi, who said during the launching ceremonies, "Africa is for the Africans." Secondly, I wish to underscore on this occasion that, consistent with our position to fully respect the constitutional law of the Philippines, we have continued our policy of peaceful settlement of the Mindanao problem based on measures legally agreeable by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Bangsamoro movements. I thank the GRP for the opportunity to help mediate the problem. Now, the GSPLAJ has not only limited itself to the area of problem solving in its relation with the GRP. It has also ably come and consolidated efforts in the areas of reconstruction and development of Mindanao, through placement of investments and acceptance of OFWs, and the strengthening of cultural tie-up.

I am privileged and honored to be part of these processes. As a representative of the GSPLAJ, therefore, I laud the GRP for its understanding of the role of GSPLAJ in the Committee of Eight of the Organization of the Islamic Conference—particularly in playing the crucial role of a problem solver in the peace process and a partner in the reconstruction efforts of Mindanao.

I see an increased point of joint partnership between the GSPLAJ and the GRP, both in level and scope, under the current leadership of Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. This is because, primarily, the President is sincere with her intention to develop Mindanao and possesses a deep understanding of the underlying nature of the problem in the area.

Mabuhay!

DR. SALEM ADAM

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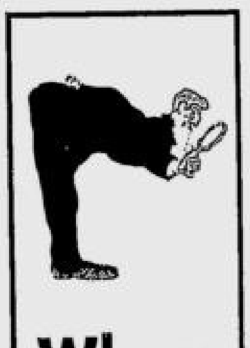

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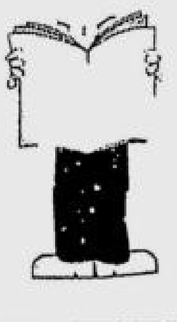

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AD NO. TRANSCO 2002-10A

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SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER
		DATE OF BIDDING: OCTOBER 08, 2002; 10:00 AM	
A1	6 SET	DISCONNECTING SWITCH	3LAG-02-135
A2	2 SET	DISCONNECT SWITCH	3LAG-02-070
		DATE OF BIDDING: OCTOBER 08, 2002; 2:00 PM	
B1	1 LOT	STRAIN CLAMP, SHACKLE, WIRE (OHGW). Y-CLEVIS	3ALT-02-030
B2	1 LOT	JOB ORDER: SUPPLY OF LABOR, MATERIALS AND SUPERVISION ON SITE SEALING AND REPAIR OF 5 MVA POWER TRANSFORMER OIL LEAK LOCATED AT LIPA S/S	A1-02-081

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference will be held for the following bidding schedules on:
1) A1-September 24, 2002; 10:00AM -- at SLT Bidding Room
2) A2-September 24, 2002; 11:00AM -- at SLT Bidding Room
3) B1-September 24, 2002; 01:00PM -- at SLT Bidding Room
4) B2-September 24, 2002; 02:00PM -- at SLT Bidding Room

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLT, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per schedule starting September 02, 2002. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the SLT Bidding Room, Transco-SL, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until 10:00 o'clock AM for A1 and A2 and 2:00 o'clock PM for B1 and B2 on the date specified above after which Eligibility Requirements and initial Technical Proposals of eligible bidders will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "Executive Order 40."

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, Irrevocable Letter of Credit, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

(Sgd.) R. D. RAMAS
MANAGER, ADMINISTRATION
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(PDI - September 1, 2002)

NOTICE OF LOSS

This is to notify the public that ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPTS Nos. 02451-2500 have been declared lost on February 09, 2002. All transactions covered by these documents from said date shall not be honored by SUN LIFE PROSPERITY FUNDS. For more information, please call or see us at 10/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center 6766 Ayala Avenue cor. Paseo De Roxas, Makati City. Tel. No. 849-9900

(PDI--Sept. 1, 2002)

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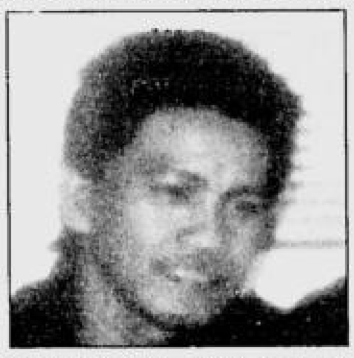

TEOFILO "Jing" TATUALLA

This is to notify the public that **TEOFILO "Jing" TATUALLA** whose picture appears above and who is said to be at his last known address at Blk. 5, Lot 20 Pisces Street, Silver Homes II, Justineville Subdivision, Bacoor, Cavite and/or c/o Heide Tatualla at 607 Movido Street, Candad, Cavite City has been charged before RTC-Branch 51, Manila with the crime of Theft docketed as Criminal Case No. 00-186636 entitled "Pp vs. Heide Tatualla and Teofilo "Jing" Tatualla has a pending warrant for his arrest. Any information leading to his present whereabouts can be relayed at R.T. NUGUID LAW OFFICES at #1362 Basilio Street, Sampaloc, Manila. Tel. Nos. 741-2685 or 731-6770.

(PDI – Sept. 1, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 02-02
(Series of 2002)

AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE NLRC MANUAL ON EXECUTION OF JUDGMENT (SHERIFF'S MANUAL)

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 218(a) of the Labor Code of the Philippines, as amended, the National Labor Relations Commission, sitting *en banc*, RESOLVED TO ADOPT AND PROMULGATE, as it hereby adopts and promulgates, the following amendments to the NLRC Manual on Execution of Judgment (Sheriff's Manual):

1. *Paragraphs (b) and (c) of Section 4, Rule I are hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 4. Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Manual, the following terms are defined as follows:

(a) xxx xxx xxx

(b) WRIT OF EXECUTION - an Order directing the sheriff to enforce, implement or satisfy the final decisions, orders or awards of the National Labor Relations Commission or any of its Labor Arbiters. The writ of execution is valid only for a period of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) days from receipt thereof by the sheriff or duly designated officer.

(c) LEVY - the act of taking possession, actual or constructive, by the sheriff or duly designated officer, of sufficient property of the losing party OR OF THE APPEAL BOND POSTED BY THE LATTER to satisfy the decision, order or award.

2. *Paragraph (b) of Section 2, Rule III, is hereby amended to read as follows:*

(b) If the execution be for the reinstatement of any person to any position, office or employment, such writ shall be served by the sheriff upon the losing party or upon any other person required by law to obey the same. Such party or person may be punished for contempt if he disobeys such decision or order for reinstatement, INCLUDING PAYMENT OF SALARY AS A CONSEQUENCE OF REINSTATEMENT PENDING APPEAL.

3. *Paragraph (c), providing as follows, is hereby added to Section 2, Rule III:*

(c) THE POSTING OF A BOND BY THE EMPLOYER SHALL NOT STAY THE EXECUTION OF AN ORDER FOR REINSTATEMENT.

4. *Sections 3 and 4 Rule III are hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 3. Execution in Case of Death of Party. Where a party dies after the finality of the decision/entry of judgment or order, execution thereon may issue or one already issued may be enforced in the following cases:

(a) In case of death of the prevailing party, upon FILING OF MOTION FOR SUBSTITUTION OF PARTY BY THE HEIRS, SUCCESSORS-IN-INTEREST, EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR.

(b) In case of death of the losing party, AFTER APPROPRIATE TESTATE OR INTESTATE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST his successors-in-interest, executor or administrator.

(c) In case of death of the losing party after execution AND ACTUAL LEVY upon any of his property, the same may be sold for the satisfaction thereof, and the sheriff making the sale shall account to his HEIRS, successors-in-interest, executor or administrator for any surplus in his hands.

SECTION 4. Issuance of a Writ. Execution shall issue upon an order, resolution or decision that finally disposes of the actions or proceedings and AFTER the counsel of record and the parties have been duly furnished with the copies of the same in accordance with the NLRC Rules of Procedure, provided:

(a) The Commission or Labor Arbiter shall, motu propio or upon motion of any interested party, issue a writ of execution on a judgment only within five (5) years from the date it becomes final and executory. No motion for execution shall be entertained nor a writ be issued unless the Commission or Labor Arbiter is in possession of the records of the case which shall include an entry of judgment where the case has been appealed EXCEPT IN CASES OF REINSTATEMENT PENDING APPEAL AND IN THOSE CASES WHERE PARTIAL EXECUTION IS ALLOWED BY LAW, WHERE THE LABOR ARBITER SHALL RETAIN DUPLICATE ORIGINAL COPIES OF THE DECISION TO BE IMPLEMENTED AND PROOF OF SERVICE THEREOF FOR THE PURPOSE OF ITS IMMEDIATE ENFORCEMENT.

(b) The Secretary of Labor and Employment OR the Chairman of the Commission may designate special sheriffs and take any measure under existing laws to ensure compliance of their decisions, orders or awards and those of the Labor Arbiters, including the imposition of administrative fines, which shall not be less than five hundred pesos (P500.00) nor more than ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00).

(c) The Secretary of Labor and Employment, OR the Commission, OR any Labor Arbiter, in appropriate cases, may deputize the Philippine National Police or any law enforcement agency TO ASSIST in the enforcement of final awards, orders or decisions.

5. *Paragraph (d) of Section 4, Rule III is hereby deleted.*

6. *Sections 5 and 6 of Rule III are hereby renumbered as Sections 6 and 7, respectively, and the new Section 5 of Rule III shall read as follows:*

SECTION 5. RESOLUTION OF MOTION TO QUASH. IN CASE THE AGGRIEVED PARTY FILES A MOTION TO QUASH, SAID MOTION SHALL BE RESOLVED BY THE LABOR ARBITER WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS FROM SUBMISSION OF SAID MOTION FOR RESOLUTION. AN APPEAL FROM THE ORDER OF THE LABOR ARBITER RESOLVING THE MOTION TO QUASH MAY BE TREATED AS A PETITION FOR INJUNCTION UNDER PARAGRAPH (e) OF ARTICLE 218 OF THE LABOR CODE, AS AMENDED, IF THE SAME SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED FOR BY LAW.

7. *Section 5 of Rule III is hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 6. Execution by Independent Action. A judgment, after the lapse of five (5) years from the date it becomes final and executory and before it is barred by prescription, may only be enforced by AN INDEPENDENT action.

8. *Section 1, Rule VI is hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 1. Proceedings. SHOULD A THIRD PARTY CLAIM BE FILED DURING EXECUTION OF THE JUDGMENT AWARD, THE THIRD PARTY CLAIMANT shall EXECUTE an affidavit STATING his title TO PROPERTY or possession thereof WITH SUPPORTING EVIDENCE and shall file the same with the sheriff and copies thereof served upon the Commission or Labor Arbiter who issued the writ and upon the prevailing party. Upon receipt of the third party claim, all proceedings, with respect to the execution of the property subject of the third party claim, shall automatically be suspended. The Commission or Labor Arbiter who issued the writ MAY REQUIRE THE THIRD PARTY CLAIMANT TO ADDUCE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF HIS THIRD PARTY CLAIM AND TO POST A CASH OR SURETY BOND EQUIVALENT TO THE AMOUNT OF HIS CLAIM AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 6, RULE VI, OF THE NLRC RULES OF PROCEDURE, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POSTING BY THE PREVAILING PARTY OF A SUPERSEDE AS BOND IN AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO THAT POSTED BY THE THIRD PARTY CLAIMANT. The PROPRIETY of the THIRD PARTY claim SHALL BE RESOLVED within ten (10) working days from SUBMISSION OF THE CLAIM FOR RESOLUTION. The decision OF the Labor Arbiter is appealable to the Commission within ten (10) working days from notice AND the Commission shall resolve the appeal within the same period.

9. *Section 2, Rule VI is hereby deleted.*

10. *Sections 1 and 3 of Rule VIII are hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 1. Return of Writ of Execution. The writ of execution shall be made returnable to the Commission or Labor Arbiter who issued it at any time no less than ten (10) nor more than ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) days after its receipt by the sheriff who shall set forth in writing the whole proceedings and file it with the Commission or Labor Arbiter to form part of the records of the case. Failure to make the return within the stated period shall subject the sheriff to a fine of not less than five hundred pesos (P500.00), or suspension for fifteen (15) days without pay or both.

SECTION 3. Break Open Order; When Issued. Should the LOSING PARTY, his agent or representative refuse or prohibit the sheriff or his authorized representative entry to the place where the property subject of execution is located or kept, the PREVAILING PARTY may apply for a break open order to the Commission or Labor Arbiter concerned WHO, after due notice and hearing, SHALL ISSUE SUCH ORDER WHICH IS IMMEDIATELY EXECUTORY.

11. *Sections 2, 4 and the first paragraph of Section 6, all of Rule IX are hereby amended to read as follows:*

SECTION 2. Sheriff's Report. The Sheriff enforcing the writ of execution shall make a REGULAR status report on its implementation to the Commission or Labor Arbiter who issued the same. Standard forms shall be made available to the sheriff in compliance with this provision.

SECTION 4. STORAGE of Levied Property. To avoid pilferage or damage to levied property, the same shall be inventoried and stored in a bonded warehouse, wherever available, or in a secured place as may be determined by the LABOR ARBITER OR THE COMMISSION with notice to the losing party or third party claimant. For this purpose, the sheriff shall inform the Commission or Labor Arbiter concerned of the corresponding storage fees, CHARGEABLE TO THE PREVAILING PARTY.

SECTION 6. CASH ADVANCE AND Execution Fees. Sheriffs or duly designated officers shall be provided at the beginning of the month with a cash advance not exceeding TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) for transportation expenses which shall be liquidated at the end of the month with a statement of expenses and itinerary of travel duly approved by the Commission or Labor Arbiter issuing the writ.

This Resolution shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SIGNED this 3rd of July, 2002, in Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines.

ROY V. SENERES
Chairman

VICENTE S.E. VELOSO, III
Commissioner

VICTORIANO R. CALAYCAY
Commissioner

IRENEO B. BERNARDO
Commissioner

EDGARDO M. EMERLAN
Commissioner

LEON G. GONZAGA, JR.
Commissioner

RAUL T. AQUINO
Presiding Commissioner

LOURDES C. JAVIER
Presiding Commissioner

IRENEA E. CENIZA
Presiding Commissioner

SALIC B. DUMARPA
Presiding Commissioner

ALBERTO R. QUIMPO
Commissioner

ANGELITA A. GACUTAN
Commissioner

(on leave)
TITO F. GENILO
Commissioner

OSCAR S. UY
Commissioner

OSCAR N. ABELLA
Commissioner

Attested by:

PERLITA B. VELASCO
Acting Executive Clerk

(PDI - Aug. 31 & Sept. 1, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the general public that a warrant of arrest has been issued by the Metropolitan Trial Court of Metro Manila, Quezon City under branch 43, against

MARILOU A. KEH

of 20 Katipunan Road, Kingspoint Subdivision, Novaliches, Quezon City for **3 counts of Violation of Batas Pambansa Bilang 22**, under Criminal Case Nos. 112061 to 112063.

Any information leading to her immediate arrest may be reported to the police authorities in Quezon City or please call Atty. Mario Eugenio V. Lim of the law office of Pelaez Gregorio & Gregorio at telephone numbers 631-1531 to 35.

A reward of P50,000.00 awaits any information who could give a reliable information that would lead to the immediate and successful arrest of the aforementioned person.

(PDI - Sept. 1, 2002)

Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PAGSASAKA AT PANGINGISDA
(National Agricultural and Fishery Council)
Diliman, Lungsod ng Quezon
Tel. No. 928-87-41 to 65 local 510

Tender No. 2002USPL480/01
September 29, 2002

INVITATION TO BID

The National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC) hereby invites sealed bids for the sale of 57,442 (+0% / -5%) metric tons (MT) at seller's option of Soybean Meal for October 2002 shipment.

Tender documents can be secured from the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) NAFC, Apacible Hall, Department of Agriculture Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City starting on September 3, 2002.

The pre-bid conference shall be held on September 5, 2002 at 10:00 AM at the NAFC Conference Room.

Fully completed sealed bids should be submitted not later than 2:00 PM on September 9, 2002. Bids received after the scheduled time will not be accepted/entertained and will be returned unopened.

For details, please contact Mr. Ingemar Bautista at Tel. Nos. 928-1966 or 929-8234.

(Sgd.) **RICARDO A. VILLO, JR.**
Executive Director

PDI–Sept. 1 & 2, 2002

Department of Health
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. Nos. 807-26-28 to 32 Fax No. 842-22-45

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) hereby invites sealed bids for the supply and delivery of at least 100 liters per month of Rabies Equine-Derived Hyperimmune Plasma for the production of Equine Rabis Immunoglobulin (ERIG) with specifications as follows:

- must have a neutralizing antibody titer of at least 180 i.u. by RFFIT (rapid fluorescent focus inhibition test) assay
- must be negative for EIA (Equine Infectious Anemia) virus
- free of contaminants (aseptic collection and storage of plasma must comply with GLP according to RITM standards)
- facility subject to inspection
- preference for local production (for supply sustainability and vaccine self-sufficiency)

Only responsible and duly accredited suppliers, manufacturers and/or exclusive distributors of Rabis Equine-Derived Hyperimmune Plasma are qualified to participate upon presentation of the following:

1. DTI Business Name or SEC Registration w/ Article of Incorporation
2. License to Operate
3. Business Permit
4. Mayor's Permit
5. BIR Value Added Tax Registration
6. Audited Financial Statements stamped "received" by the BIR for the past two calendar year

Submission of the said documents and issuance of bid documents for qualified bidders will be at the Supply Department on **September 9, 2002**, upon payment of non-refundable fee of P100.00 (One Hundred Peso) for the proposal forms.

A Pre-bid Conference will be held on **September 16, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. at the Training Center of RITM.

Only Pre-qualified Bidders shall be allowed to attend the Pre-bid Conference. Attendance to the Pre-bid conference is a must and failure to show up shall be deemed to have waived his right to participate.

Submission of sealed bid documents will be on **September 20, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. at the Training Center of RITM.

Sealed bids must be submitted on the schedule day of bid opening accompanied by bid security in the amount equivalent to two and a half percent (2.5%) of the total bid price. The bid security maybe in the form of cash, Cashier's or Manager's check, bank draft or guarantee against any reputable bank, letter of credit issued by a commercial bank, surety bond callable on demand issued by a surety or insurance company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner or any combination thereof. Interested bidders are requested to present personally or through their authorized representatives their proposals. Letters of authority to represent and sign documents must be properly notarized.

RITM reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive any defect or informality therein and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Institute.

(Sgd.) **SALVACION R. GATCHALIAN, M.D.**
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI--Aug. 25 & Sept. 1, 2002)

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OBITUARIES

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ROGELIO GASGONIA GATCHALIAN

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on August 28, 2002 at the age of 64.

His remains lie in state at Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels in Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, September 4, 2002 at the Manila Memorial Park at 3:00 PM.

In Loving Memory

ON THE FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

DR. ALFREDO L. ALIASAS

of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya

November 25, 1935 – September 1, 2001

His beloved wife NENITA FABELICO ALIASAS

His children: Dr. MARISEL & MORRIS PINEDA; NORMAN ALIASAS; Dr. LUBELLE & Dr. MOISES VIERNES; LYNETTE & EDWIN GUZMAN; ELLEN & BOY ONGTAO; JOHN & MARIE ALIASAS; and grandchildren, relatives and friends request the readers to remember PAPA DOC in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered today, September 1, 2002 at the following:

St. Louis Beltran Parish, Solano, Nueva, Vizcaya	8:30 AM
St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya	7:00 AM
St. Joseph Parish of Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya	6:00 AM
St. Dominic Cathedral, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya	8:30 AM
St. Jerome Parish, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya	8:00 AM
Corpus Christi, San Francisco California, USA	6:00 AM
Christopher Parish, Moreno Valley, California, USA	10:00 AM

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be."

John 12:16

IN LOVING MEMORY
on the
FOURTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY
of

ANTONIO ZARAGOZA LIM

March 11, 1937 - September 3, 1998

SCHEDULE OF MASSES ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

San Isidro Parish Church Taft Avenue, Pasay City	6:00 a.m.
St. Benedict College Chapel Alabang Hills, Muntinlupa City	6:15 a.m.
St. Anthony's Cathedral Masbate, Masbate	6:15 a.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church Arlington, Virginia	6:45 a.m.
St. Timothy's Church Chantilly, Virginia	9:00 a.m.
Church of the Resurrection BF Parañaque City	6:30 p.m.
St. Andrew the Apostle Church Bel Air, Makati City	6:30 p.m.

Tony's widow **Mariquita Bautista Lim**; children **Tom**, **Louie**, **Missy** and **Jason Brodowski**, and **Bob**; sister **Eva Lim Pasagui** and her children; and Mariquit's siblings **Mely**, **Dodie** and **Warren Willis**, **Laly**, **Ted**, and **Nina** and **Manolo Quiray**; and their families request relatives, friends and the kind reader to remember him in their prayers.

We lovingly remember our dearest "Mama" on her Forty Third Death Anniversary

EUFEMIA CRUZ VENTANILLA

of Cabanatuan City and Calumpit, Bulacan
who died on September 2, 1959

Holy Masses will be offered tomorrow at the following churches:

1.	**Saint Nicholas Tolentine Cathedral** Cabanatuan City	All Masses
2.	**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel** Cabanatuan City	6:00 A.M.
3.	**Our Lady of Fatima Parish** Philamlife Homes, Las Piñas, Metro Manila	All Masses
4.	**Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary** Multinational Village, Parañaque, Metro Manila	All Masses
5.	**Parish of the Holy Sacrifice** U.P. Campus, Diliman, Quezon City	All Masses
6.	**Sta. Maria Della Strada Parish** Katipunan Ave., Diliman, Quezon City	All Masses
7.	**St. James the Great** Alabang Village, Muntinlupa	All Masses
8.	**Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary** Rosario Complex, San Pedro, Laguna	All Masses
9.	**St. Jerome Emillani and Sta. Susana Parish** Ayala Alabang Village	All Masses
10.	**Mary Help of Christians Parish** Better Living Subdiv., Parañaque	All Masses
11.	**Sto. Niño de Cebu Parish** Biñan, Laguna	All Masses
12	**Immaculate Conception Parish** Marikina, M.M.	6:00 A.M.

Her surviving children: **Gloria**, **Oscar Jr.**, **Rosalinda**; sons and daughters-in-law; and grandchildren, request relatives, friends, and pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

The Partners and Staff of
BDO Alba Romeo & Co. CPAs
condoles with the family of

CATALINO DONATO ABRIGO

who died on 30 August 2002 at the age of 64.

His wife **Erlinda Asuncion Abrigo**; His parents, **Arcadio and Benigna** (†); His Sisters & brother **Nena Bundalian**, **Felicisima** and **Serapio Reyes**, **Casiana** (†) and **Dr. Arsenio Abrigo** (†) requests readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the **Don Bosco Charity Chapel, Arnaiz St., cor. Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City** and will be transferred to the family residence on Monday, September 2, 2002 at Barrio San Agustin, Alaminos, Laguna.

Interment will be on 4 September 2002 (Wednesday) at the family mausoleum at Alaminos Municipal Cemetery.

Angelita "Nanette" Cortes-Milla

Wife, Mother, Friend, Trainer, Small Business Advocate

Born November 4, 1949 at Urdaneta, Pangasinan; departed August 9, 2002 at Yanbu, Saudi Arabia.

Loved well and generously gave of herself unsparingly, chased her dreams passionately and made this world a little brighter for those she touched.

Irreplaceable to husband **Gene**; children **Eugene & Andrei**, **Monette** and **GT**; grandchildren **Nikki**, **Carlo** and **Mikay**; and brothers and sisters and other kin.

Precious to friends and colleagues at the U.P. Institute for Small-Scale Industries, the Small Enterprises Research & Development Foundation and the small business development community.

Her remains lie in state at the Resurrection Chapel, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (beside Claret School), U.P. Village, Diliman, Quezon City. Interment plans to be announced later.

"Shed not for her the bitter tear nor give the heart to vain regret,
'Tis but the shell that gave and left, the gem that filled it sparkles yet."

With sincere thanks

We, the family of the late

Remedios 'Medy' Roco
oda de Atayde

express our profound gratitude for all the sympathy, kind thoughts, prayers, gifts, and condolences offered our family during our time of sorrow. They are greatly treasured and will be remembered always. May the Lord graciously bless you for your kindness and generosity.

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
–Philippians 1:21

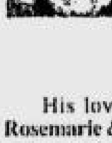
Dra. Victoria "Vicky" "Neneng" C. Crisostomo

Has peacefully joined our Heavenly Father on August 30, 2002 at the age of 54.

Her loving mother **Teodorica**; children **Ericson**(†), **Elizabeth Vivienne**, **Elaine Vieve**, **Emmylou** & **Victor Emmanuel**; brothers, **Eduardo**, **Teodoro** & **Mario**; sister-in-law **Rosie**; nephew **Timothy Mark** & niece **Rhea** mourn her passing.

Her remains now lie in state at the HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS, Sucat, Parañaque City. Remains will be transferred to 63 Maliksi, Bacoor, Cavite on September 4, 2002. Interment will be on September 7, 2002 at the Bacoor Memorial Park, Bacoor, Cavite.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

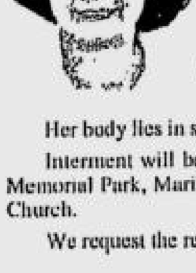


We, the family of the late

2Lt. FILOMENO L VIDAL PA SRC (Ret)

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on August 22, 2002 at the age of 74.

His loving wife **Vicky**; children **Elaine & Philip**, **Eleonor**, **Rosemarie & Nonoy**, **Rodolfo & Anne**, and **Lumen**; brother **Gregorio**, and grandchildren **Tope**, **Jane**, **Tin-tin**, **Jendy**, **Lalaine**, **Yayam**, **Synjan**, **Don**, **Christine**, **Ino** and **Joanna** wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.



Our Beloved Tita Ising

Cresencia L. Dela Cruz

Peacefully joined our Lord on August 29, 2002 at the age of 69.

Her body lies in state at the Loreto Church, Bustillos Sampaloc, Manila.

Interment will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2002 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the Loreto Church.

We request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Our Beloved Mama Panching

ESPERANZA VALBUENA Vda. de RAÑADA

of Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya passed away in the grace of our Lord on August 30, 2002 at the age of 72.

Beloved children, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Lot 7, Blk. 14, Almond Street, Sherwood Heights, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. at Himlayang Pilipino, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."

Matthew 10:39

"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-25

JOSE "PEPING" ALVAREZ ROÑO

of Calbayog City, Samar
(March 19, 1923 - August 30, 2002)

Who humbly served as:
Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic
Minister, Local Government and Community Development
Majority Floor Leader, Batasan Pambansa
Governor, Province of Samar
Congressman, 1st District, Samar
Mayor, Calbayog City
Manager, NACIDA

Returned to the bosom of his Creator in the early morning of Friday, August 30, 2002, after receiving the comforts of his faith.

His widow **Carol Sarmiento**; his children **Jose "Chito"**, **Mario "Mait"** and his wife **Peevee**, **Ma. Caroline "Gigi"** and her husband **Jim**, **Ma. Isabel "Marisa"** and her husband **Glenn**, **Ma. Bernadette "Dolly"** and her husband **Ling**, **Ramon "Rany"**, and **Patricia "Pat"**, his grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to offer a prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

He lies in state at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati.

Interment will be announced later.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

"The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want" (Psalm 33:1)

OUR BELOVED

Abner O. Espino

Of Samal, Bataan and Davao City
Peacefully joined his Creator on the 28th of August 2002
at the age of 74.

His wife: Veronidia Saldaña Espino; Children/grandchildren: **Ronald & Baby** (Viel & Adrian), **Gigi** (Shaira), **Nato & Tess** (Michael, Christopher & Patrick), **Rey & JanJan** (Drian, Kim & Renz), **Rolly & Grace** (Sam & Lance), **Millie & Bo** (Marielle).Together with his brother *Felix*, sisters *Teresita, Juana, Lucy* and *Adoracion*, in-laws, nephews, nieces request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at **1st Street Horseshoe Drive, Bajada, Davao City.**

Mass will be held on Sept. 4, 2002, 8:00 a.m. at the Redemptorist Church, Bajada, Davao City. Interment will follow at Davao Memorial Park, Matina, Davao City.

FELISA "FELING" O. DAMILES

Died in the Grace of our Lord on August 30, 2002 at the age of 78.

Her remains lie in state at St. Jerome West Chapel, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.
Interment will be on September 04, 2002 (Wednesday) at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City after the 1:30 PM Mass at St. Jerome Chapel Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue Quezon City • Tels 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St cor Mercedes Ave , San Miguel Ave , Pasig City
Tels 747-8599, 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A B Fernandez Ave , Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels (0785) 522-3451, 522-2128, (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
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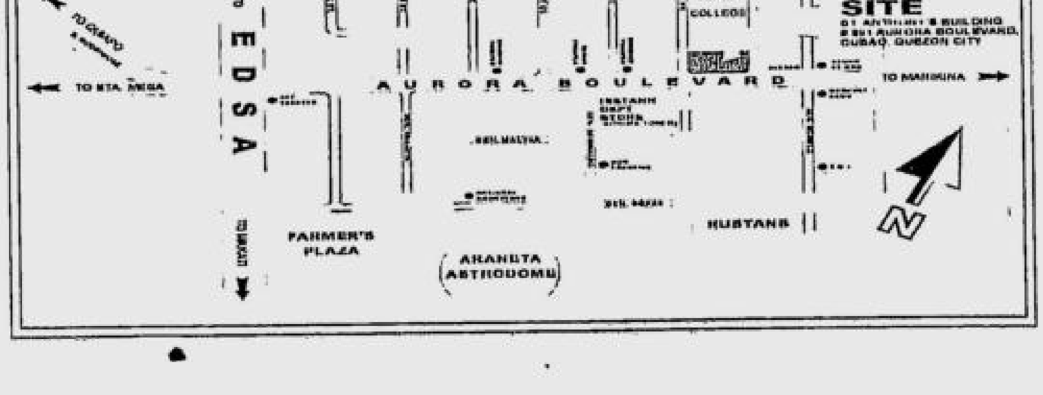

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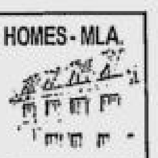

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MALE/FEMALE

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

JONAS LEROY ADALIO FERRER

Notice is hereby given that the Regional Trial Court of Makati City Branch 142 (Criminal Case No. 99-1595 People of the Philippines vs. Jonas Leroy A. Ferrer) has issued a warrant for the arrest of **JONAS LEROY ADALIO FERRER** whose picture appears above.

A substantial reward shall be given to anyone who can provide information leading to his arrest. Please contact Atty. Marvin B. Aceron at telephone number 888-0999.

(PDI -- Sept. 1, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that effective August 23, 2002, MS. YOLANDA QUIÑONES ZULUETA, whose picture appears herein, is no longer authorized to transact sales, collections, order processing, disbursements, or any and all manner of business for and on behalf of PRIME INDEX PHILS., INC.

MS. YOLANDA QUIÑONES ZULUETA has abandoned her work on July 27, 2002 and up to the present time has been on absence without leave. Until her employment status is verified, her authority to transact on behalf of PRIME INDEX PHILS., INC. is hereby withdrawn.

Any transaction or contract entered into with Yolanda Q. Zulueta, in whatever form, purportedly on behalf of PRIME INDEX PHILS., INC. as of said date, is void and will not be honored by the company.

PRIME INDEX PHILS., INC.

(PDI--Aug. 28 & Sept. 1, 2002)

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•PROMO RELIEVER•
F-5'2" M-5'6", College Level, Speaks English,
Pasig, Makati & Alabang Area 8501599 LOOK FOR MS.GINA

•PROMODISER•
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☎740-0057 / 67
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-Bring your sample work
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PUBLIC NOTICES

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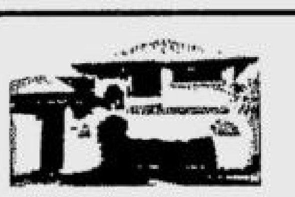
LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANTONIO CAMINS was extra-judicially settled by the heirs as per Doc No. 10 Page No. 2 Book No. I Series of 2002 under Notary Public Atty. R. Antonio O. Cuenca of Manila. (PDIAug.18,25&Sept.1,2002)

PERSONAL

★FORTUNE TELLING★ 0916-3577597



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PHILAM LIFE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ARNEL J. ANTIOQUIA
122 Turentigue Street, Morong, Rizal

The public is hereby notified that **MR. ARNEL J. ANTIOQUIA** whose picture and address appears above has ceased to represent The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company or PHILAMLIFE in any capacity whatsoever in view of the termination of his agency contract effective June 15, 2002.

Any transaction made or entered into by this person for and on behalf of PHILAMLIFE after June 15, 2002 is not valid and will not be honored by us.

(PDI -- Sept. 1, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

LILIA M. GALANG

Notice is hereby served on the public that a criminal case for **ESTAFA** has been filed by complainant **BUILDMAC PHILS. CORP.** against **MRS. LILIA M. GALANG** whose picture appears herein before the MTC of Makati (Branch 64) docketed Criminal Case No. 312179 and (Branch 62) docketed Criminal Case No. 311961 and RTC of Makati (Branch 150) Criminal Case No. 02-514 entitled **"PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES VERSUS MRS. LILIA M. GALANG.**

(PDI -- Sept. 1, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

PETRONIO D. VILLAREAL

Notice is hereby served on the public that a criminal case for **ESTAFA** has been filed by complainant **BUILDMAC PHILS. CORP.** against **MR. PETRONIO D. VILLAREAL** whose picture appears herein before the RTC of Makati (Branch 150) docketed Criminal Case No. 02-514 entitled **"PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES VERSUS MR. PETRONIO D. VILLAREAL.**

(PDI -- Sept. 1, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
Magallanes Drive, Intramuros
1002 Manila

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/ APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bureau of Immigration is inviting interested contractors to apply for pre-qualification/eligibility and bid for the proposed four-storey extension of BI Main Office Building, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila.

Interested contractors should be duly-registered/licensed with the PCAB with a classification of Medium "B" for Vertical Structures and should have performed other similar projects.

Notice for Prequalification/Eligibility Screening and List of Prequalification/Eligibility Requirements and other relevant information may be obtained from the BAC Secretariat, General Services Section, 3rd Floor, Bureau of Immigration, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila from **Septembr 9 to 10, 2002**. Submission of duly-accomplished prequalification/eligibility forms shall be on **September 17, 2002** upon presentation of official Letter of Intent and payment of non-refundable fee of P1,000.00.

The Bureau of Immigration reserves the right, after observing all rules and regulations, to reject any or all the bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose bid is the most advantageous to the government. The Bureau of Immigration likewise assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **DANIEL C. CUETO**
Associate Commissioner
Chairman, BAC (General)

(PDI -- Aug. 30, Sep. 1 & 4, 2002)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES

722-1144 • 722-1155

People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Obra ni Juan unveils its newest product line

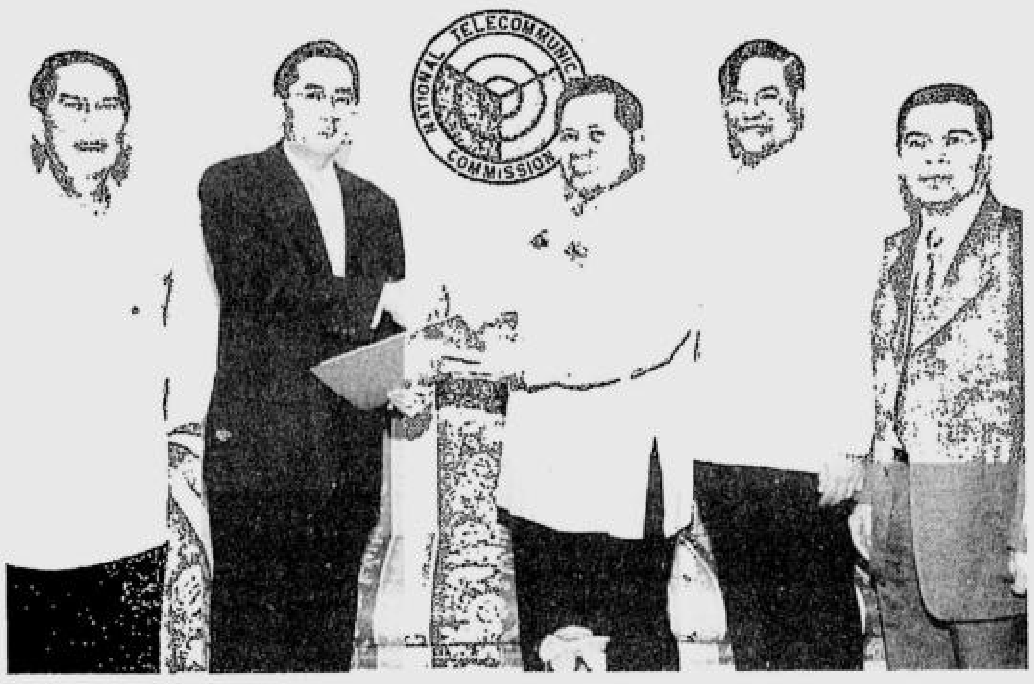
WHETHER inside the workplace, business cocktails and dinner meetings, the Filipino business executives of the new millennium are invariably distinguished by being active, driven, competitive and with a great sense of nationalism. This is why in their quest for fame and success, the visual impression they create on their physical appearance—from head to toe—is of utmost importance: a public image of confidence, competence and approval.

When it comes to their choice of apparel to wear, from casual getups, corporate attires, and formal wear, Obra ni Juan has a wide array of polos, shirts, pants and shorts to complement every businessman's day-to-day activities.

Obra ni Juanj is a unique line of men's apparels, which is ready to create a niche in the local men's ready-to-wear garment industry. Prepared to be the harbinger of fine Filipino workmanship, Obra ni Juan apparels are made of specially woven fabrics in ethnic and Filipiniana design that are modified to suit the trend of today's generation. Since its introduction to the local market several years ago, Obra ni Juan has been continually enjoying the patronage of its loyal customers primarily because it focuses on comfortability and the uniqueness of its designs which is a fusion of ethnic Filipino and modern concepts.

In addition to its fashionable product lines to date, Obra ni Juan proudly unveils its own and distinctive yet affordable line of Barong Tagalogs for all of its growing and satisfied customers. Made from the finest jusi and piña fabrics combined with exquisitely crafted embroidery, the Barong Tagalog of Obra ni Juan is uniquely designed to be the perfect choice for formal and evening occasions. As an added treat for its loyal customers, Obra ni Juan is giving away complimentary *camisa de chinos* and indoor slippers for every purchase of their Barong Tagalog.

Obra ni Juan is available at Robinsons Galleria, Metro East, Novaliches and Imus; and at Sta. Lucia East Department Store, and at specialty shops in selected deluxe hotels and resorts all over the country.



GLOBE, ISLACOM GET 25-YEAR LICENSE

The National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) recently awarded Globe Telecom and its subsidiary Isla Communications Company with a 25-year Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to operate a cellular mobile telephone system (CMTS) and a local exchange service (LEC) network. Shown, from left, are DOTC Undersecretary Agustin Bengzon, DOTC Secretary Leoandro Mendoza and Globe SVP for corporate and regulatory affairs lawyer Rodolfo Salalima.

GIVE A CAN
GIVE HOPE

GIVE A CAN, GIVE HOPE

Philippine Sports Commission chair and former national swimmer Eric Buhain (left) shares an insight with WG&A Philippines corporate communications manager Gina Virtusio after signing the 'Give a Can. Give Hope' project streamer. The PSC has lent its support to WG&A's ongoing project. The program encourages people to collect used aluminum beverage cans (UBCs) and donate these to Tahanang Walang Hagdanan for recycling into tubes used in making mobility aids. To date, the program has turned over some 70 tons of UBCs, which our differently abled brothers and sisters at Tahanan have transformed into hundreds of wheelchairs, canes and crutches. To date, there are 55 collection centers all over the country and WG&A ships these to the Tahanan compound in Cainta, Rizal. WG&A, in turn, also supports our national athletes by helping improve sports development in the country.

Burlington supports 'Museum of the Mind'

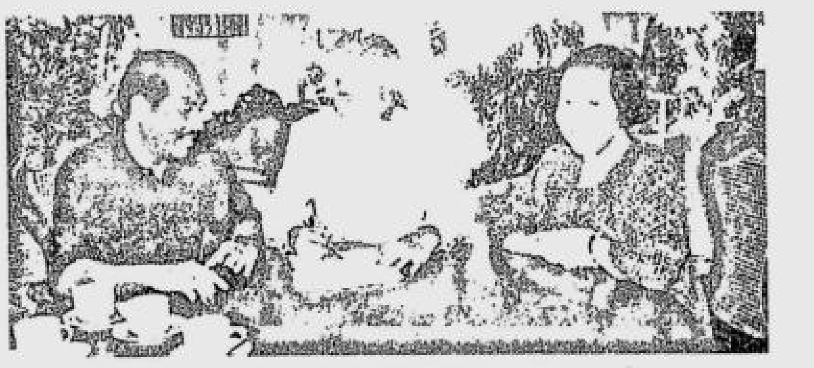
BURLINGTON Industries Phils. Inc., maker of Burlington, Puma and Bally socks, recently signed up as sponsor of "Museum of the mind and Body", a world-class light and sound multi-media-cum-interactive museum.

The event which opened July 15 at the Festival Mall in Alabang showcases the most complex machine ever, the human brain and its home, the body.

A unique experience awaits one and all at this "braintastic" exhibit, including sections that deal with how the brain controls the body, how it create ideas, produces language, solve problems, stores memories and does the million and one other things we take for granted.

"This very educational yet fun experience will benefit people of all ages that is why we are giving our total support to the project", quipped Ruddy Tan, general manager of Burlington.

Last year, the top hosiery firm backed the "Portaits of the World" museo-exhibit also held at the Alabang shopping mall.



BAMBOO SEEDLINGS FOR BATANES

Nereo Paculdo (center), pioneer in bamboo propagation since 1985, signs a deed of donation of 1,000 bamboo seedlings to Rep. Butch Abad in the presence of Metro Manila Council of Women Balikatan Movement chair Leonarda Camacho the other day at the office of Paculdo. The Balikatan Movement initiated this donation, as well as donating 10,000 narra, dao, and mahogany trees to Batanes through Abad. It also donated 70,000 forest trees to the La Mesa Dam Rehabilitation Program of the ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan Foundation through Gina Lopez.

BITS Clips

Ashrae-Region XIII hosts 5th CRC

THE AMERICAN Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers Inc. (Ashrae)-Region XIII, the sub-region of the foremost organization on the industry that includes as its members the Philippines, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand, will be hosting the 5th Annual Chapter Regional Conference (CRC) and Exhibit at the Manila Midtown Hotel from Sept. 5 to 8. There will be more exhibits conducted simultaneously on Sept. 2, 3, 6 and 7 also at the Manila Midtown Hotel. The event will showcase high-tech heating equipment, refrigerators, air-conditioners, ventilators, and pumps. The last CRC was held in 1998 in Singapore. For more details, call 910-2722, 910-2721, 687-0654 or 687-0604.

USAid visits TB center

A THREE-member team from the United States Agency for International Development (USAid) in Washington DC, accompanied by local Philippine USAid staff, will visit the De La Salle University-Health Sciences Campus-DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course) Center in Dasmarinas, Cavite on Sept. 3 to benchmark on the implementation of the Public-Private Mix (PPM)-DOTS projects in the area. Drs. Cheri Vincent, Stephanie Mullen and Erin Reckert, consultants of USAid Washington, together with Dr. Cora Manaloto, USAid Philippine Development specialist, will observe how the "Cavite Model" being pilot tested at the De La Salle University Health Sciences Campus develops a public-private referral system between health care providers. A private DOTS clinic will be set up to provide free services and affordable medicines for tuberculosis.

ANTS goes to schools and malls

SMART introduces a new special feature for all Smart Gold, Buddy, and Talk n' Text subscribers. Called Person Finder, this feature will help you track a person lost or friends you cannot find. Smart ZED, in partnership with local pioneer in location-based services Asian Navigation Tracking Systems (ANTS) will be touring malls and schools to show Smart subscribers just how easy it is to activate and use this feature. Watch out for the Smart ANTS!

1ST BATCH OF MICROSOFT CERTIFIED PROS

The academic group faculty development program division of Informatics Holdings Philippines Inc. proudly announced that 13 lecturers from different Informatics centers successfully passed the Microsoft Certified Professionals Examination 70-210 covering installation, configuration and administration of Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional. Shown are the new lecturers and executives from Informatics. As Microsoft certified professionals, lecturers can avail themselves of benefits such as industry-recognized credentials, access to technical information in Microsoft secured site and invitations to Microsoft conferences, technical training sessions and special events. Four Informatics centers, ICI-Cainta, ICI-North Edsa, ICI-Fairview and ICI-Pampanga have also qualified as Microsoft certified partners.

ANZ
Bank ANZCH
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July 20
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ANZCH

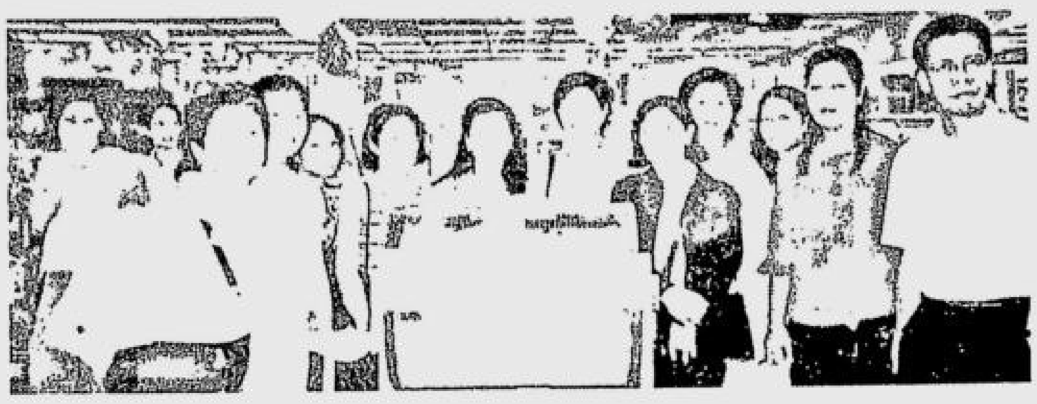
BMW PHILIPPINES RECEIVES AWARD

BMW Philippines Corp. was conferred the Business Entrepreneurial Award at the recently concluded ANZ Bank-Anzcham Business Awards 2002 for having performed with skill and excellence over the previous year. Receiving the award from Johnny Co, country head and general manager of ANZ Bank, is Gabor Csurgai, service director of BMW Philippines Corp, as Anzcham president Richard Barclay looks on. BMW Philippines Corp commenced local operations April 1, 2001 and has since introduced 28 models and variants in the local market.

Product FILES

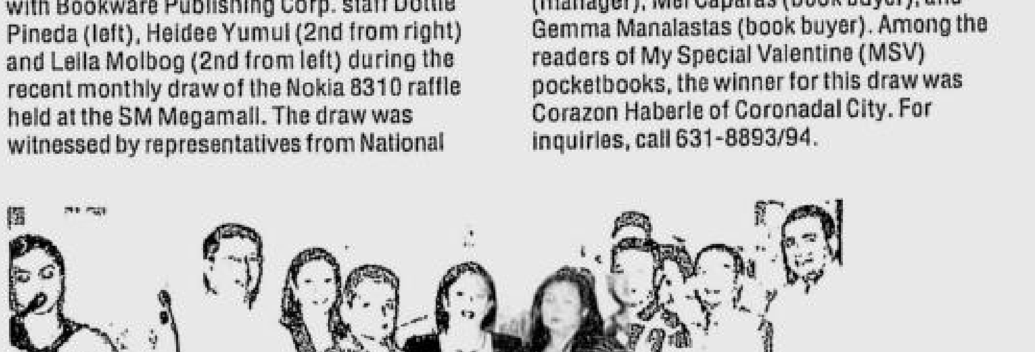
'Cosmedics' line from AIA Hinoki

JAPANESE skin-care technology is respected and followed closely by the world's skin care experts. Backed up by years of thorough research, Japanese skin care technology is cutting edge. Major breakthroughs have been made in the field of cosmedics, a term derived from the two markets Japanese skin companies cater to—cosmetics and medicine. The market for cosmetics is after products that bring beauty to their appearance. For the most basic care, AIA Hinoki Clinical introduces a set of three products, the SP Clean Emulsion for cleansing, the Hinoki Fluid Foam for cleaning, and the NA Skin Lotion for restoring.



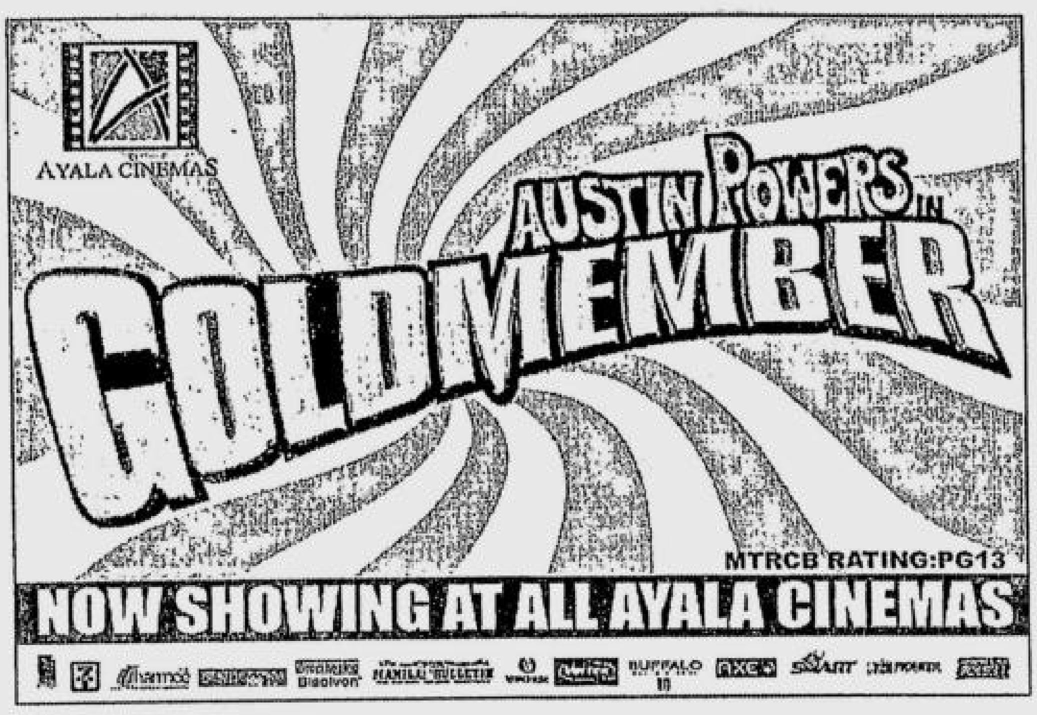
MSV AT SM

DTI Director Arnaldo del Rosario (right) is seen with Bookware Publishing Corp. staff Dottie Pineda (left), Heidee Yumul (2nd from right) and Leila Molbog (2nd from left) during the recent monthly draw of the Nokia 8310 raffle held at the SM Megamall. The draw was witnessed by representatives from National Bookstore Megamall branch Lucy Genegaban (manager), Mel Caparas (book buyer), and Gemma Manalastas (book buyer). Among the readers of My Special Valentine (MSV) pocketbooks, the winner for this draw was Corazon Haberle of Coronadal City. For inquiries, call 631-8893/94.



NHC HONORS, LAUNCHES

Nokia Home Communications (NHC) has honored its 15 most outstanding dealers via an exclusive lunch gathering at the Manila Peninsula Hotel. Receiving sales appreciation awards were Selectronics, SVC Enterprises, Headstart, PMSI, Dagupan Audio Electronics, Globotel, Delco Telecom, Island Dreams, POS Marketing, Options Telecom, Alpha Delta, Countrywide, RGM, 3rd Generation Telecom, and XTN Ventures. Comworks Inc. and Brightpoint were also honored with partnership awards. As an added treat for its dealers, NHC launched the 'Go for the Dream, Make the Nokia Team' promo. Running until, Dec. 31, dealers and salespersons nationwide can win up to P50,000 in the grand draw to be held Jan 24, 2003. Shown is NHC general manager Martin Fernandez (left) with the top dealers.



MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DOLBY)	DERAILED
2 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X
3 (DTS)	SPIRIT
4 GOLD(DTS)	UNFAITHFUL
5 GOLD(DOLBY)	SIGNS
6 GOLD(SDDS)	SIGNS
7 GOLD(DOLBY)	AUSTIN POWER
8	GAMITAN
9	JOLOGS
10	JOLOGS

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	
2	
3 (DTS)	
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMA 1 2 & 3
(Pasay) tel 833.7700 · 833.3374
TEL. 551 63 87

1	JOLOGS
2	TRIPLE X
3	GAMITAN

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3	SIGNS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SIGNS
5	DERAILED

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285

1	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS
4	SIGNS
5	AUSTIN POWER
6	DERAILED
7	
8	

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2010 to13

AUTIN POWER
SCREENING HOURS (WED, THURS)
5:50PM, 7:50PM, 9:50PM

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
2	HIGH CRIMES

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	JOLOGS
3	

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	SIGNS
2	JOLOGS
3	GAMITAN
4	TRIPLE X

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (SDDS)	DERAILED
4	GAMITAN
5	AUTIN POWER-3
6	JOLOGS
7 (DTS)	SPIRIT
8 (SDDS)	SIGNS
9 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

1	GAMITAN
2	JOLOGS
3	JOLOGS
4 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X
5	DERAILED
6 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
7 (DTS)	AUSTIN POWER-3
8	SEX & ZEN
9	BIGLANG LIKO

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

4	GAMITAN
5 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X
6 (DTS)	JOLOGS
7 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
8	AUSTIN POWER-3

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	JOLOGS
2	AUTIN POWER-3
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	GAMITAN
5 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	JOLOGS

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	JOLOGS

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	SEX & ZEN
Lords	HIYAS
Jennet	

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	JOLOGS
2	GAMITAN
3	TRIPLE X

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
2	TRIPLE X
3	AUSTIN POWER
4	JOLOGS
5	GAMITAN

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1	
2	

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta
MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821/8242/8400

1	JOLOGS
2	GAMITAN
3 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AUSTIN POWER
4 (SDDS)	SIGNS
5 (DTS)	TRIPLE X
6	UNFAITHFUL
7	DERAILED

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821/8242/8400

1	SIGNS
2	DERAILED

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	GAMITAN
2	JOLOGS
3 (DTS)	TRIPLE X

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7983

1	JOLOGS
2 (DTS)	GAMITAN
3 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
4	SIGNS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	JOLOGS
2 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
3 (DTS)	SPIRIT
4	TRIPLE X

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	JOLOGS
2	LILO & STITCH
3	TRIPLE X
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
4 (DTS)	INSOMNIA

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1	SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3	TRIPLE X

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1	SIGNS
2	SEX & ZEN
3	GAMITAN
4	JOLOGS

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	GAMITAN
5	SPIRIT

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	JOLOGS
2	SIGNS
3	GAMITAN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1	JOLOGS
2	SIGNS
3	GAMITAN

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3233

1	LILO & STITCH
2	BIGLANG LIKO
3	JOLOGS
4	SAGAD

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	GAMITAN
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

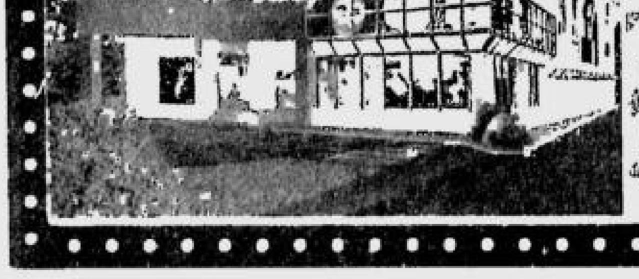
1	SWEETEST THING
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS
4	TRIPLE X

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	INSOMNIA

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS



PREMIERE CINEMA NOW SHOWING
SCREENING HOURS (WED, THURS)
5:50PM, 7:50PM, 9:50PM

AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173888

1	AUSTIN POWERS
2	SPIRIT
3	TRIPLE X
4	SIGNS
5	DERAILED
6	JOLOGS
7	GAMITAN
8	LILO & STITCH

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	JOLOGS
2	UNFAITHFUL
3	SIGNS
4	SPIRIT
5	TRIPLE X
6	GAMITAN
7	DERAILED
8	LILO & STITCH
9	AUSTIN POWERS...
10	JOLOGS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	GAMITAN
2	SPIRIT
3	LILO & STITCH
4	SIGNS
5	TRIPLE X
6	JOLOGS
7	AUSTIN POWERS
8	DERAILED
9	UNFAITHFUL
10	KILLING ME SOFTLY
11	SWEETEST THING
12	JOLOGS

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	AUSTIN POWERS
2	LILO & STITCH
3	JOLOGS
4	SIGNS
5	DERAILED
6	TRIPLE X
7	SPIRIT
8	UNFAITHFUL
9	JOLOGS
10	GAMITAN
11	SWEETEST THING
12	JOLOGS

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	SIGNS
2	KILLING ME SOFTLY
3	SIGNS
4	TRIPLE X
5	DERAILED
6	UNFAITHFUL
7	GAMITAN
8	AUTIN POWERS
9	JOLOGS
10	LILO & STITCH
11	JOLOGS
12	SPIRIT

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	DERAILED
2	LILO & STITCH
3	GAMITAN
4	JOLOGS
5	AUSTIN POWERS
6	SIGNS
7	SPIRIT
8	TRIPLE X

SM SOUTHMALL
8068888

1	SPIRIT
2	DERAILED
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	SIGNS
5	JOLOGS
6	LILO & STITCH
7	JOLOGS
8	TRIPLE X
9	GAMITAN
10	UNFAITHFUL

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	TRIPLE X
2	KILLING ME SOFTLY
3	LILO & STITCH
4	MORE ANTS IN THE PANTS
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	GAMITAN
7	JOLOGS
8	SPIRIT

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	GAMITAN
2	CLOSED
3	SPIRIT
4	TRIPLE X
5	JOLOGS
6	POWERPUFF GIRLS
7	CLOSED
8	KILLING ME SOFTLY

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	SIGNS
2	AUSTIN POWERS
3	SPIRIT
4	GAMITAN
5	TRIPLE X
6	JOLOGS

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	GAMITAN
2	SIGNS
3	JOLOGS
4	TRIPLE X

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	SIGNS
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS
4	AUSTIN POWERS

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS
3	GAMITAN
4	STUART LITTLE 2
5	ORANGE COUNTY
6	SPIRIT

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM CINEMA
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Mandaluyong City
633-8976

1	**SIGNS** 10:10 FS/10:30 MF/12:35/2:40/4:45/6:50/ 8:55/10:40 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:45 END
2	**AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER** 10:10 LFS/10:30MF/12:35/2:40/4:45/6:50/ 8:55/10:40 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:35 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate : P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

1 THX	SIGNS
2	AUSTIN POWERS
3	SIGNS
4	SPIRIT
5	JOLOGS
6	TRIPLE X
7	GAMITAN
8	DERAILED
9	UNFAITHFUL
10	LILO & STITCH

Ermita
536 -7809- 12

1	SIGNS
2	TRIPLE X
3	GAMITAN
4	DERAILED
5	JOLOGS
6	SPIRIT
7	AUSTIN POWERS

Metro East -
Marcos hway
682- 8193 / 8280

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	DERAILED
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	GAMITAN
7	SIGNS
8	JOLOGS

Novaliches
935- 3229 - 30

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	DERAILED
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	GAMITAN
7	SIGNS
8	JOLOGS

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	SIGNS
5	GAMITAN
6	JOLOGS

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459

1	THE SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3	TRIPLE X
4	KILLING ME SOFTLY
5	ABOUT A BOY
6	THE THIRD WHEEL

Iloilo
336-8077 - 78

1	THE SWEETEST THING
2	TRIPLE X
3	SPIRIT
4	POWER PUFF GIRLS
5	JOLOGS
6	ORANGE COUNTY

Star Mills-
San Fernando, Pamp.
875 1927
961 5318 / 5270

1	GAMITAN
2	SPIRIT
3	SIGNS
4	JOLOGS
5	SORORITY BOYS
6	SIGNS

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soon to open.

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Hits from '80s, '90s in CD from Home Radio and MCA Universal

HOME RADIO 97.9 and MCA Universal bring back the hands of time with a special album collection, "Lately," which is now available in music stores. The album is composed of hit ballads from the '80s and the '90s.

"Lately" includes "Happy Ever After" by Julia Fordham, "Colors of the Wind" by Vanessa Williams, "Sara" by Starship, "Everytime You Go Away" by Paul Young, "Sometimes Love Just Ain't Enough" by Patty Smith with Don Henley, "These Dreams" by Heart, "You Are" by Lionel Richie.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED Some scenes may be inappropriate for children under age 13.

VIN DIESEL
A NEW BREED OF SECRET AGENT
xXx
REVOLUTION STUDIOS
sony.com/TripleX

Non-Stop Wide-Screen Action!

xXx – a new breed of secret agent

After Schwarzenegger and Stallone, comes a new kind of action hero in a new kind of high-adrenaline action-adventure.

Vin Diesel is Xander Cage, a tattooed, buff-to-the-max underground thrill seeker. He is the ultimate Bad Boy... armed with astonishing physical stamina and the attitude to go with it.

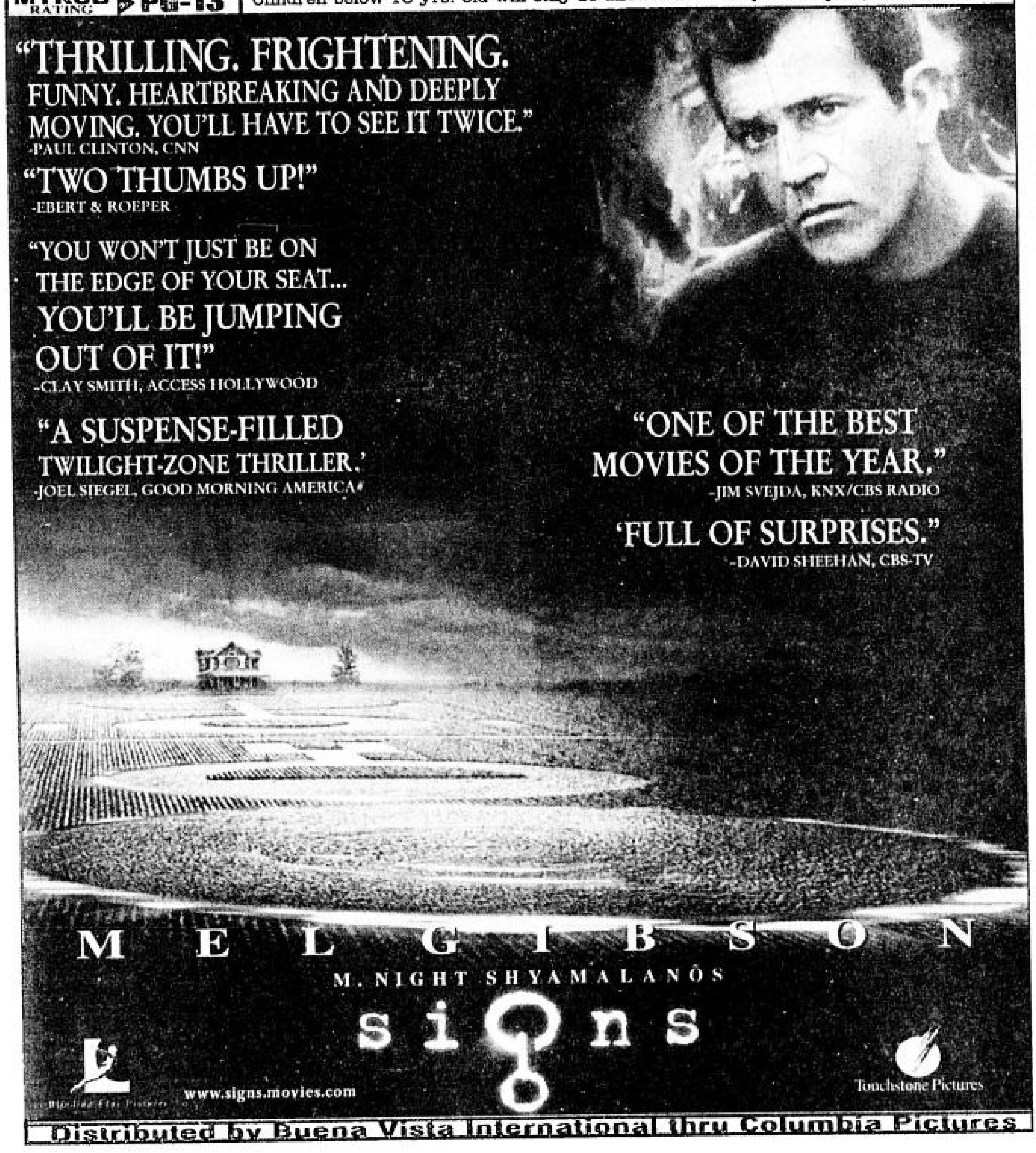
After tangling with the law too many times, he is forced to pay his debt to society, going on a dangerous underground mission in Prague. Recruited by tough veteran agent (SAMUEL JACKSON) of the National Security Agency, Xander must infiltrate a crime ring led by a brutal ex-Russian Army commander. His secret agent code name: xXx (Triple X).

Columbia Pictures presents the biggest slam-bang action picture of the season! Time Magazine says xXx is "a highly stylized adrenaline rush of a movie." You won't want to miss it.

SECOND WEEK !

ANOTHER #1 HIT FROM THE CREATOR OF "THE SIXTH SENSE"
NOW SHOWING!!!

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult


"THRILLING. FRIGHTENING. FUNNY. HEARTBREAKING AND DEEPLY MOVING. YOU'LL HAVE TO SEE IT TWICE."
-PAUL CLINTON, CNN
"TWO THUMBS UP!"
-EBERT & ROEPER
"YOU WON'T JUST BE ON THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT... YOU'LL BE JUMPING OUT OF IT!"
-CLAY SMITH, ACCESS HOLLYWOOD
"A SUSPENSE-FILLED TWILIGHT-ZONE THRILLER.'
-JOEL SIEGEL, GOOD MORNING AMERICA
"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR."
-JIM SVEJDA, KNX/CBS RADIO
'FULL OF SURPRISES."
-DAVID SHEEHAN, CBS-TV
MEL GIBSON
M. NIGHT SHYAMALAN'S
signs
www.signs.movies.com
Touchstone Pictures

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

OPENS SEPTEMBER 11 !

HINDI
MAPIGIL ANG
TAWAG NG

LAMAN

ALBERT MARTINEZ
INTRODUCING LOLITA DE LEON
ELIZABETH OROPESA
YUL SERVO
DIRECTED BY MARYO J. DELOS REYES
REGAL ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

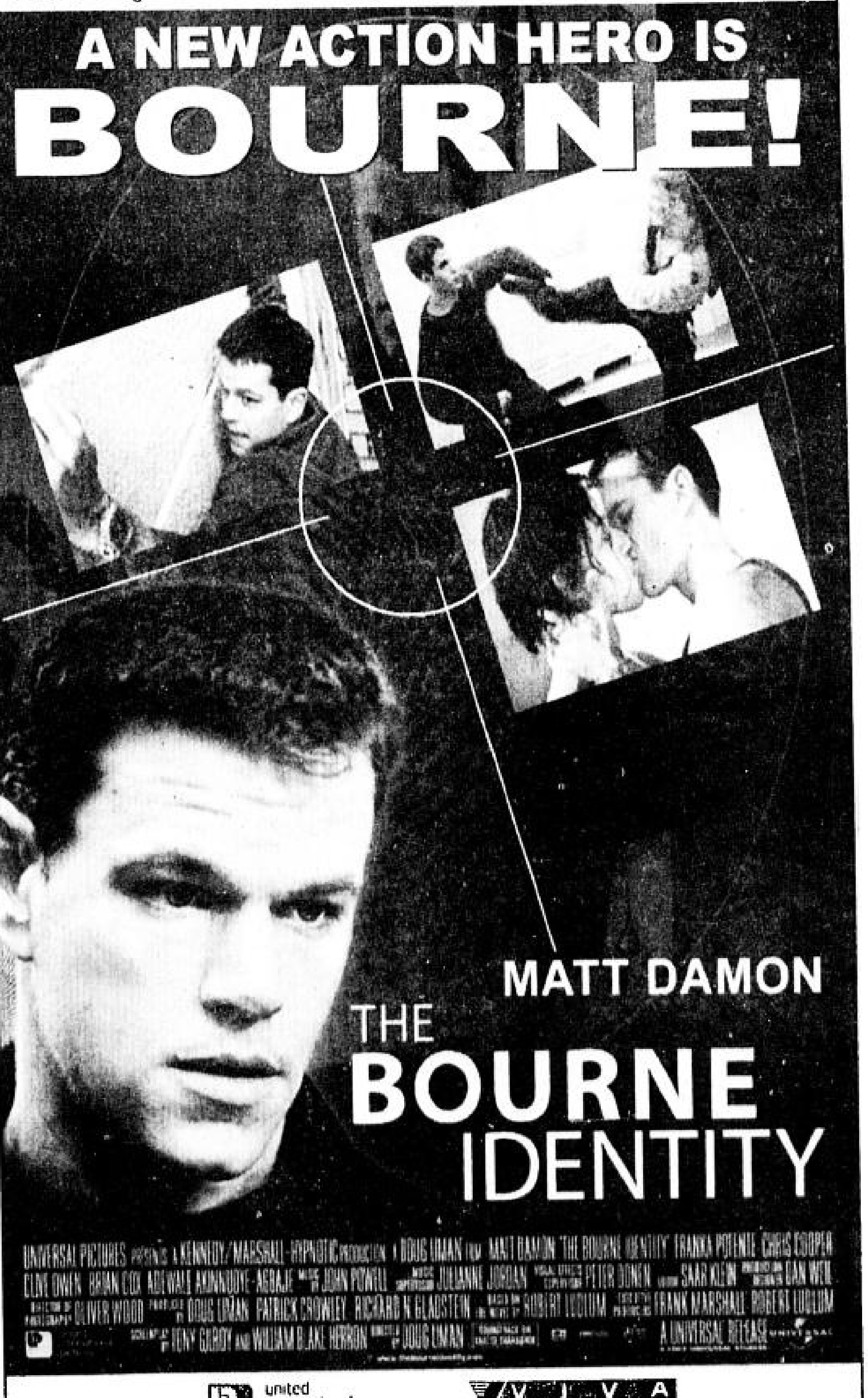
LET'S ALL JAM! LET'S ALL ROCK AND ROLL!
NOW SHOWING NATIONWIDE!

Diether Ocampo
Patrick Garcia
Vhong Navarro
Onemig Bondoc
Dominic Ochoa
Assunta de Rossi
JOLOGS
John Prats
Jodi Sta. Maria
Julia Clareto
Baron Geisler
Michelle Bayle
Directed by: Gilbert G. Perez
Hawk
Star Cinema

Original soundtrack available from Star Records

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

The film contains some violence which young audiences may find disturbing.
Parents and guardians are cautioned against bringing children 13 years old and below.


A NEW ACTION HERO IS
BOURNE!
MATT DAMON
THE BOURNE IDENTITY
UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A KENNEDY/MARSHALL-HYPNOTIC PRODUCTION A DOUG LIMAN FILM MATT DAMON "THE BOURNE IDENTITY" FRANKA POTENTE CHRIS COOPER
CLIVE OWEN BRIAN COX ADEWALE AKINNUOYE-AGBAJE MUSIC BY JOHN POWELL MUSIC SUPERVISOR JULIANNE JORDAN VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR PETER DONEN EDITOR SAAR KLEIN DAN WEIL
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OLIVER WOOD PRODUCED BY DOUG LIMAN PATRICK CROWLEY RICHARD N. GLADSTEIN BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ROBERT LUDLUM FRANK MARSHALL ROBERT LUDLUM
SCREENPLAY BY TONY GILROY AND WILLIAM BLAKE HERRON DIRECTED BY DOUG LIMAN
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES A VIVA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

SEPTEMBER 4

Ricky Reyes pays tribute to hairdressers in 'Beauty Plus' on RPN 9

BEAUTY expert and salon chain magnate Ricky Reyes, who hosts the award-winning lifestyle show "Beauty Plus," pays tribute to hairdresser members of Fil-Hair Coop he founded and continuously chairs.

Every year, Ricky takes time out to visit the domain of his members and choose winners of "Star Salon" contest.

This year's champions are Peping de Guzman (first place), who won P5,000 in cash; Meinard Gicomo (second place) with P3,000; and Manny Tolentino (third) with P2,000. They also brought home trophies, gift packs and salon equipment donated by Splash, makers of Kolours, which sponsored the contest with Fil-Hair.

Today at 11 a.m. on RPN 9, "Beauty Plus" features German doctor Dietmor Rummel, who will discuss the efffective and successful results of herbal medicine to his patients in the segment, "Beauty and Business with Herbs."

The chef from Star Trak Restaurant will introduce the recipe chic a la pobre in "Cooking Up," while model Maan Kanaan samples Mother Ricky's artistry in makeup and hairstyle in "Make Over." Maan's accessories were courtesy of Marcella's.

Gracing the show are executives of Splash (Elaine Romero, Lea Beltran, Dennis Ferrer and Joey Garcia) to launch the "Search for Kolour Masters" that will conduct regional and national competitions starting Sept. 2, to be participated by Fil-Hair members all over the country. Mechanics of the contest will be announced on the show.

"Beauty Plus" is directed by Cris Aquino.

REYES

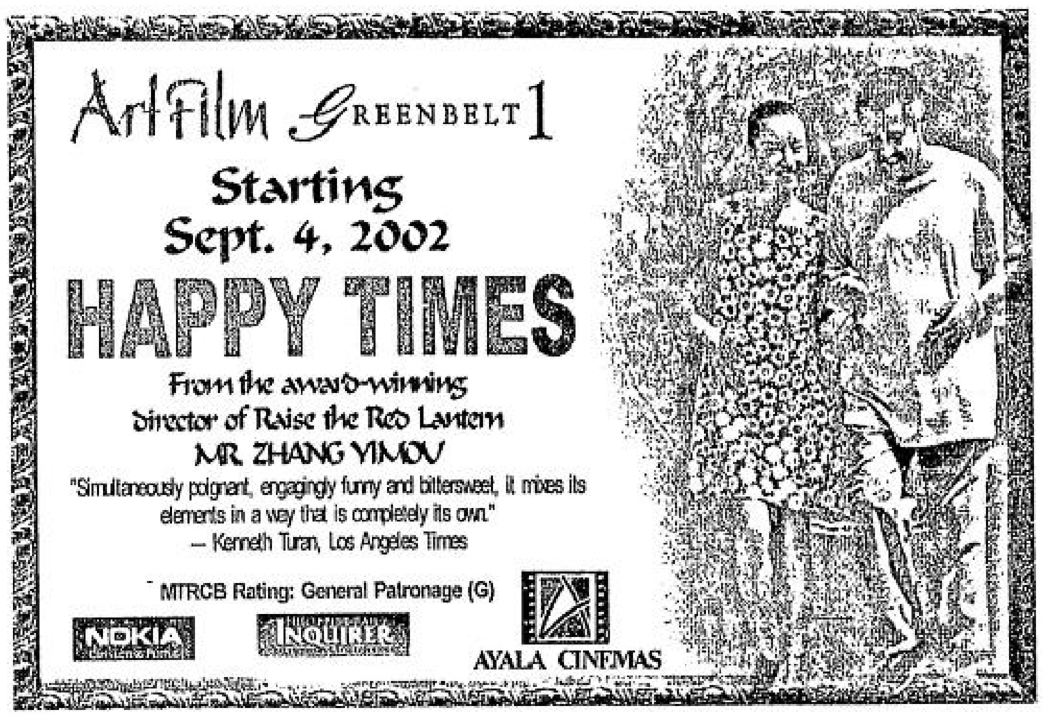
Crossover presents Janno

ACTOR, comedian, TV host and recording artist are just some of the words that can best describe Janno Gibbs. He will go solo on Sept. 12, Thursday, in the monthly "Crossover Presents" series at Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental Manila.

Janno returns in the venue where he also did a special show last year.

Janno will once again render choice Crossover classic, contemporary jazz and R&B tunes that he doesn't normally perform in his other shows.

Janno will be joined onstage by musical director Gerard Salonga.



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10:30 RING O	10:30 RING 2

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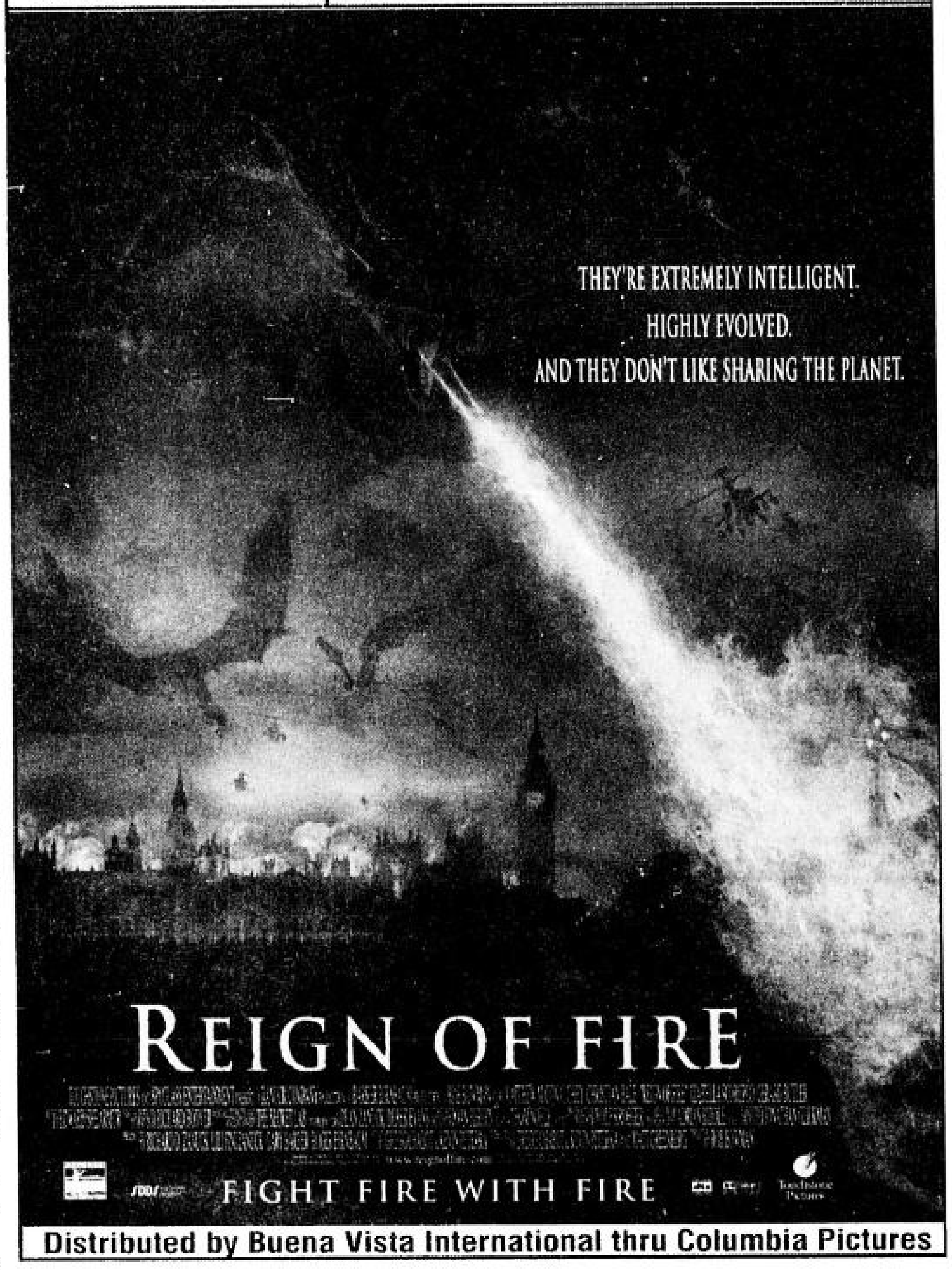
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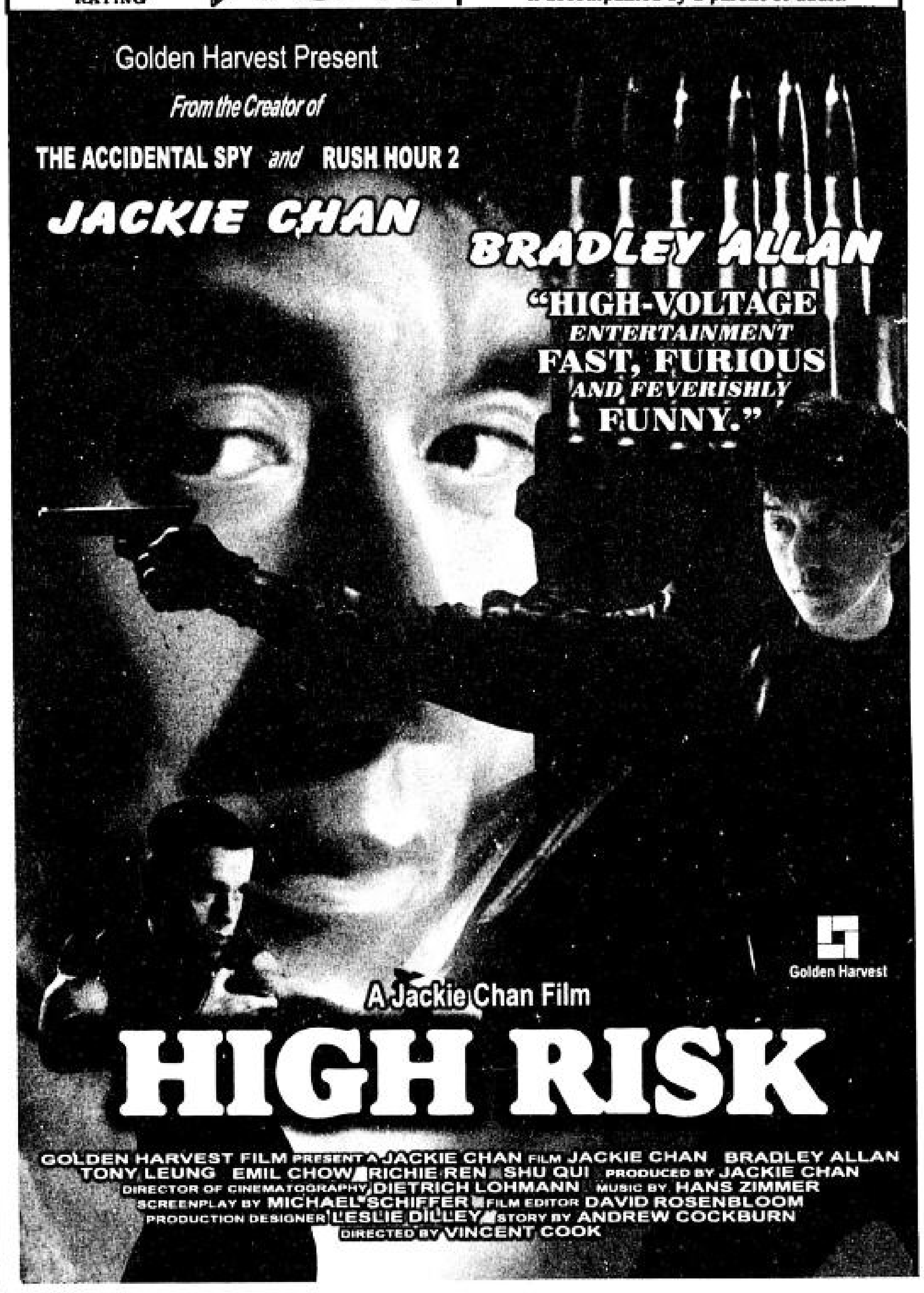
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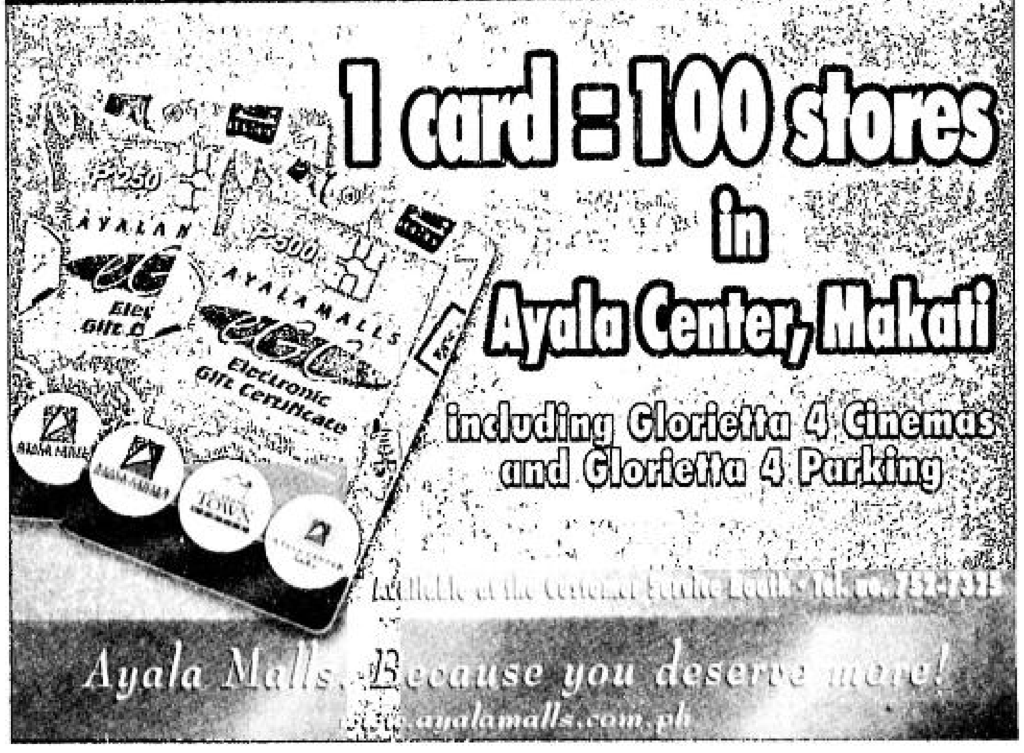
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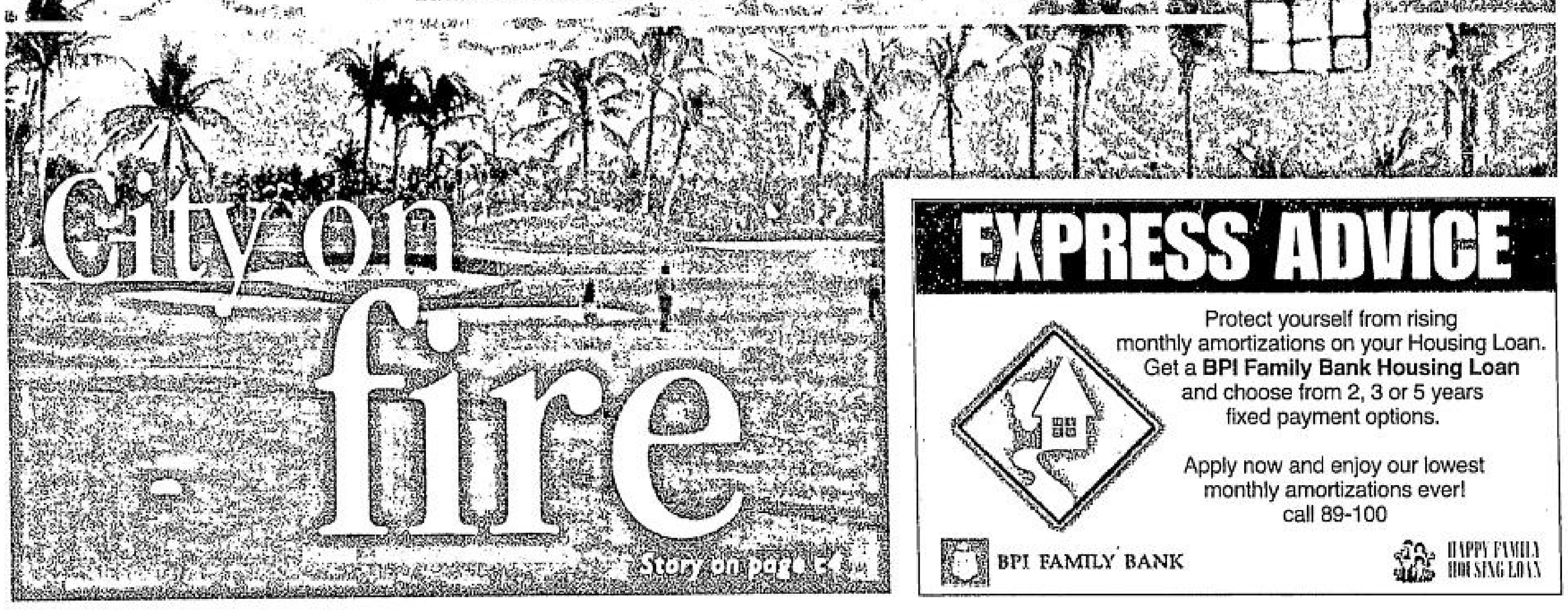
Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

OFFICIAL SEAL
LIPA City Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto



City on fire

Story on page C4

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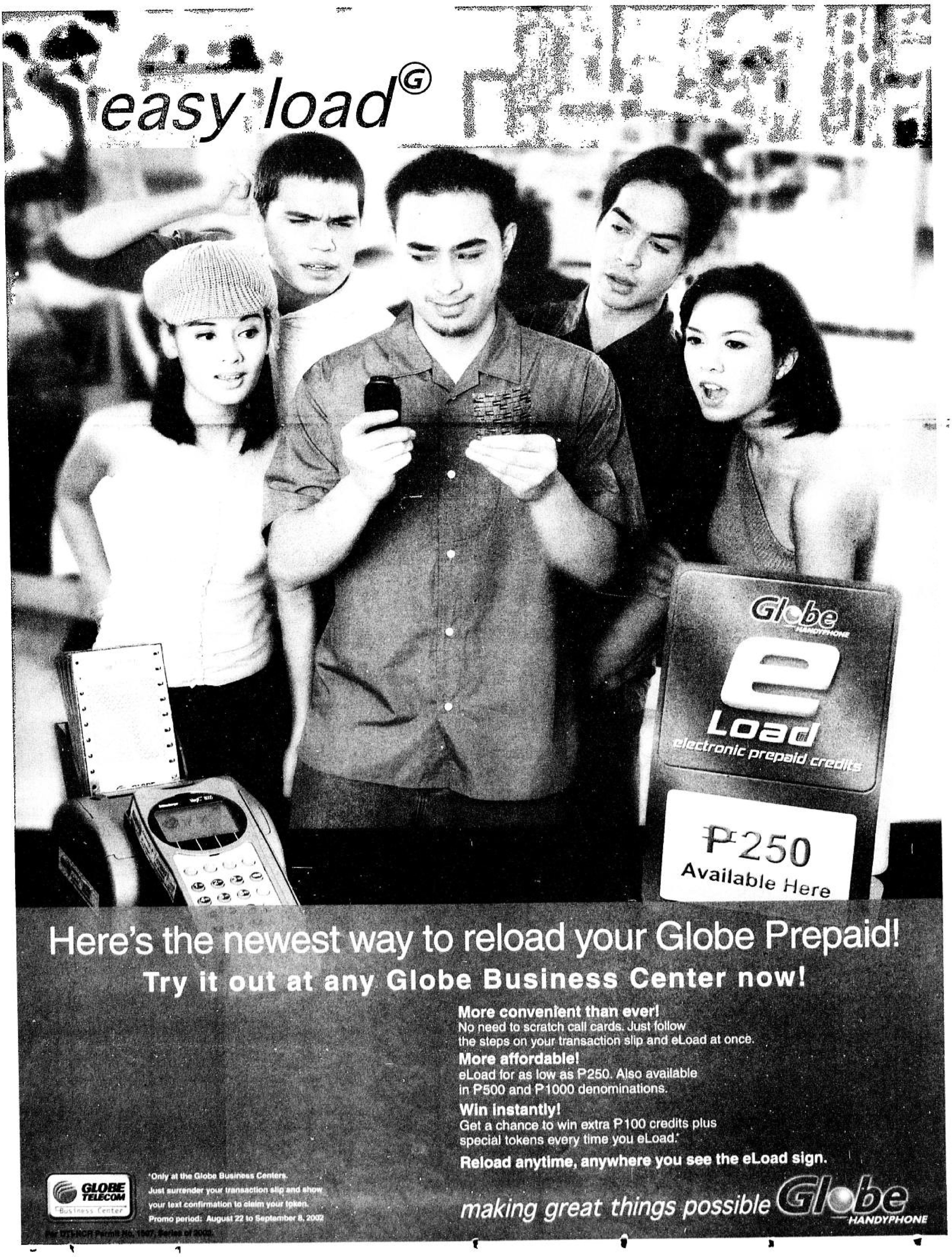
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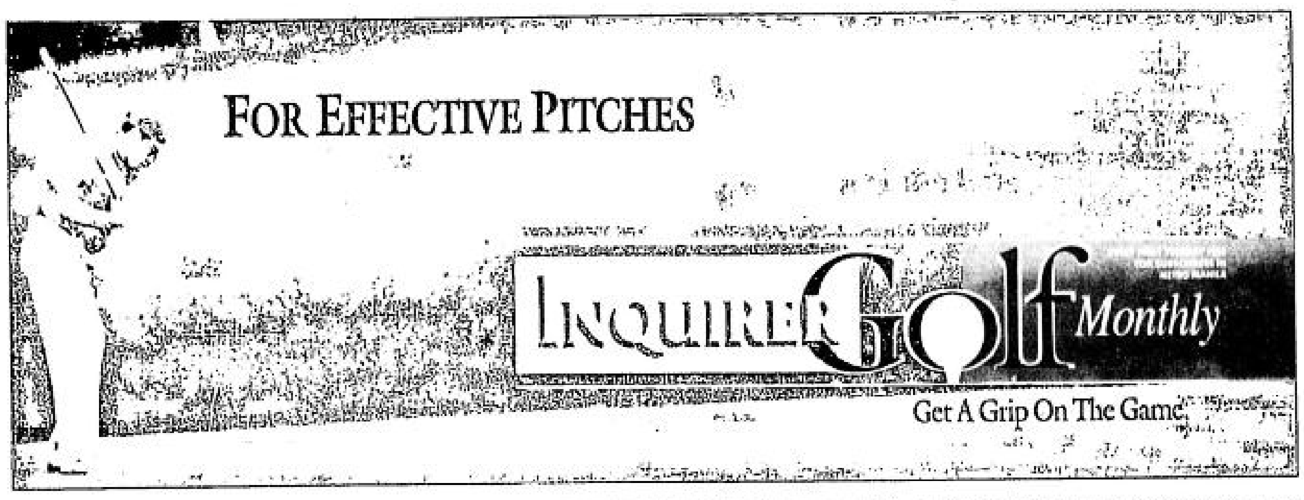
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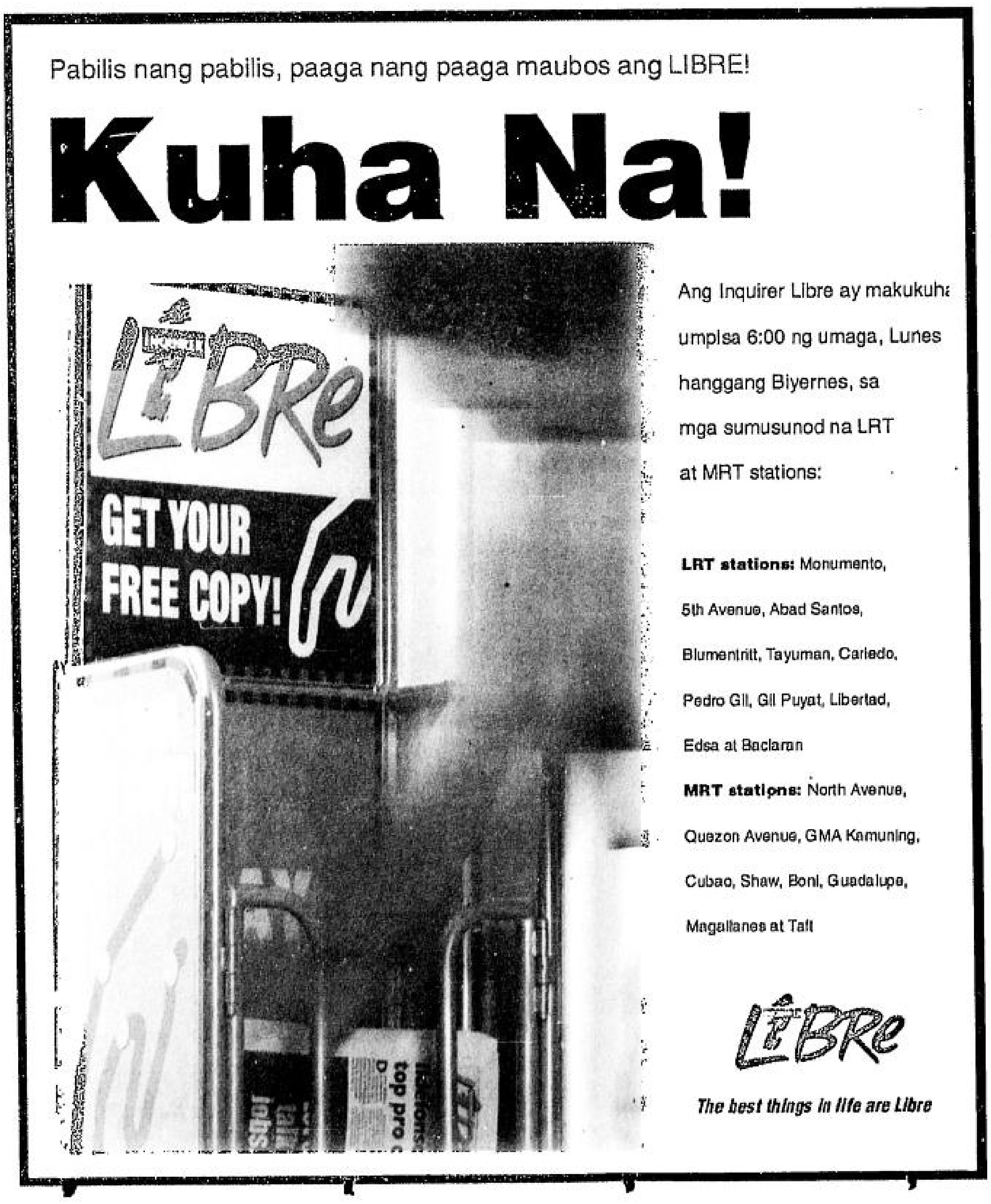
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LIBRE

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WHITE anthurium commands a higher price because it is more difficult to grow.

Going Dutch in 'barako' country

From page C8

personnel have also visited Holland to learn first-hand the technology.

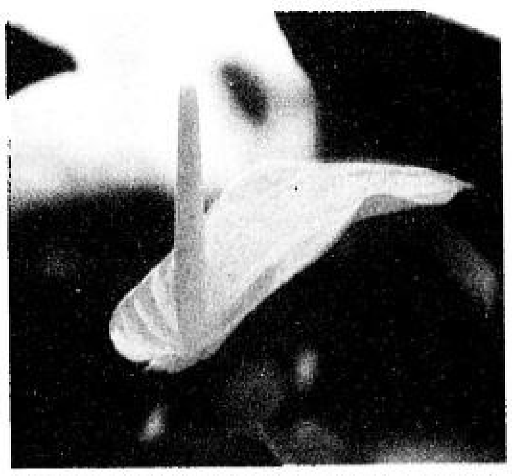
Fully computerized

In a control booth, computers prepare the proper watering mixtures—which include water, fertilizer and pesticides—and release them gradually, ensuring that each plant gets a total of one liter of water every day. The computers also automatically turn on the misting showers if the temperature rises above 30°C.

To help ensure that plants are kept disease-free, visitors have to step on antiseptic-drenched mats before entering the greenhouses.

Cimeni said the farm had grown to 200,000 from 20,000 plants, yielding a total of 1,200

GOING/ p.C3

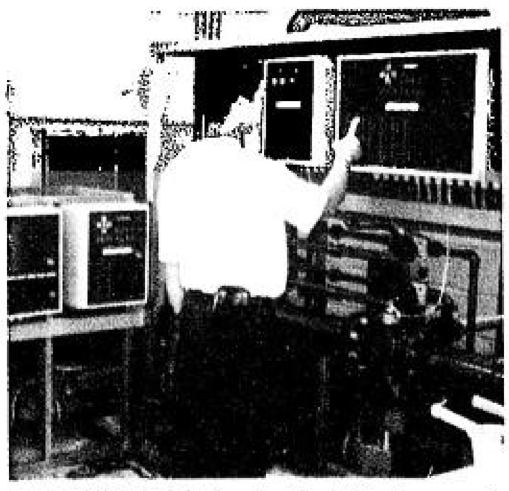


WHAT seems to be the anthurium's petal is actually a leaf variation. The spadix, the knobby, cylindrical part in the center, is the true flower.

A WORKER harvests blooms.

THE FAÇADE of Agrikultura Pilipina Inc., a.k.a. Holland Anthurium. To the right is a Dutch-designed anthurium greenhouse

TWO of eight API workers clean the plastic roofs of greenhouses.



A TECHNICIAN checks the dials in one of several computers that maintain temperature in the greenhouses and make sure plants get the right proportion of water, nutrients and pesticides.

Going Dutch in 'barako' country

From page C2

blooms a week (harvest is done twice a week). Despite the Holland Blooms connection, Cimeni said about 80 percent of harvest actually went to the wholesale market near the Dangwa Bus Terminal in Sampaloc, Manila.

Although leaves for foliage are also collected from the cutflower anthurium, API grows another variety for cut foliage—Renaissance Anthurium afina. Cimeni pointed out that this second variety's flowers were not as attractive as the other one. They consisted only of the knobby, cylindrical part, which was the true anthurium flower. The more popular anthurium bloom of the cutflower variety is actually a false one—the "petal" is really a variation of the leaf, and what seems to be the stamen in the center, the spadix, is the true flower.

Cimeni said flowers were harvested when three-fourths of the spadix had changed color. Blooms going to the market have to be free of blemishes and must have straight stems. The spadix has to be proportional to the size of the whole "flower"—a bigger bloom must have a longer spadix. Cutflower prices range from P30 to a little over P40, depending on quality and color. White blooms command a higher price because they are more difficult to propagate. Foliage from Renaissance sells for P25 a piece and P1 each from the flowering plants.

The farm manager said foliage was harvested every 15 days, the volume depending on demand. But the average harvest was about 500 dozens, 200 of which went to sister company Holland Blooms.

Flowering anthurium, according to the farm manager, were replaced with fresh plants when production started to decline in size and in number from an average of 10 flowers per plant per year. A plant has an average lifespan of about seven years, so most of the original imports have been replaced. Because of patents, API has to get all its planting materials from Holland.

Cimeni added that the farm could not even produce its own crossbreeds because of patent restrictions. If, by accident, something new and different is produced, API has to send the "discovery" to Holland.

With the anthurium greenhouses occupying only a fraction of the sprawling farm, Cimeni said more land would be used should there be a need to expand the anthurium greenhouses. And, although he was not privy to what the Bote couple had in mind for the rest of the farm, he was certain that plans were being made to utilize fully the remaining space and make the API more productive.

VISITORS step on antiseptic-laced mat before entering the greenhouses to protect plants from diseases.

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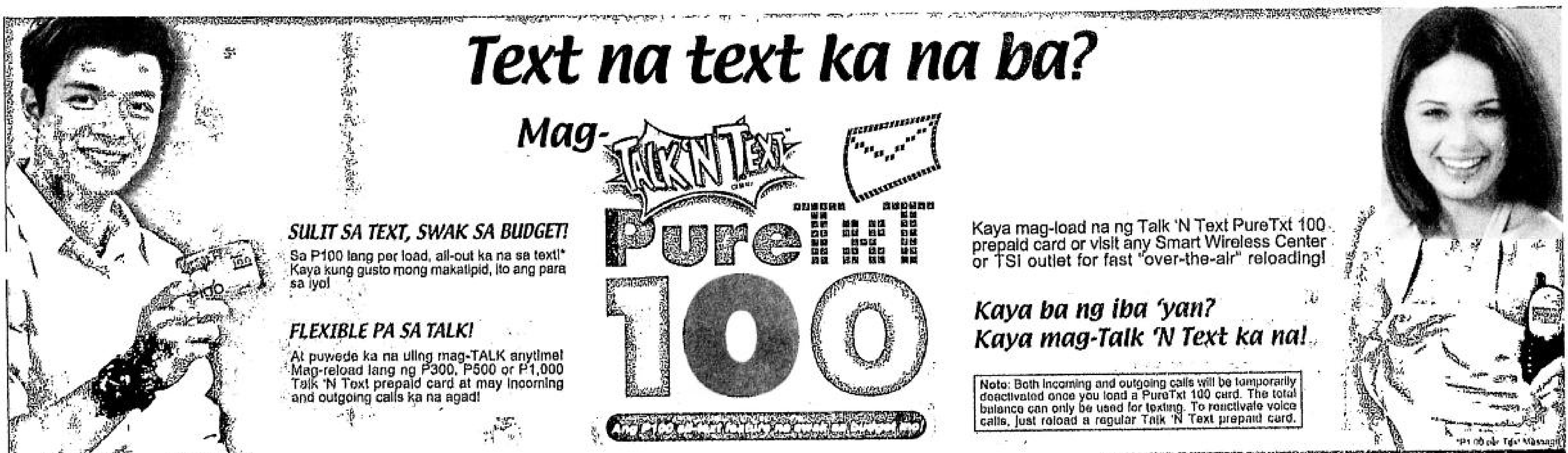

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City on fire

By Anne A. Jambora

FILIPINOS wouldn't be as colorful a race without tall tales retold through the generations. Rural folk tales on how a town or city got its name or why a nook in a narrow alley turned ice-cold on a hot, summer day are a dime a dozen.

Lipeños have legends, too. The *lipa* tree has leaves so itchy it once drove the early Spaniards crazy. One particular Spaniard suffered the worst. An upset stomach unwittingly led him toward the trees to hide and, well, defecate. Since tissue paper was unheard of, he did what everyone did at the time after doing his thing—plucked a few leaves off the tree and started wiping his arse with them. The excruciating torture from his swollen, bright-red behind prompted the Spaniards to call the town Lipa.

Of course, a sober version is that of the statue of the city's patron saint, St. Sebastian, discovered by locals on the *lipa* tree. Word of the finding spread around, and since then the place has been called Lipa. What became of the icon nobody knows, but *lipa* trees still exist to this day.

If Cebu boasts of having Lapu-Lapu, Lipa City brags of being the home to many important historical figures, such as Teodoro Kalaw, Gregorio Katigbak, Roman Dimayuga and Claro M. Recto.

It is also the adopted home of Vilma Santos, multi-award-winning actress and movie queen of four decades and running, who is married to Sen. Ralph Recto, the grandson of the great Recto. Today, as Lipa celebrates its 55 years of cityhood (under Republic Act 162), perhaps the city's main claim to fame is having as mayor the ever-perky and tireless actress, who is said to eat death threats for breakfast because of her campaign against criminality.

Proud breed

Lipa's rich past has spawned a breed of proud Filipinos, says public affairs officer Cherry Peña. So proud are they that Lipeños refuse to work as househelps. She says that in the old days, men would even refuse to work in factories.

Lipa is said to have come from the flame tree with itchy leaves that is native to the area. Brace for Lipa—city of peppery pride and fiery warmth

Peña adds that the real Lipa folk, excluding immigrants from neighboring towns, are landowners. "If [Lipeños] have it, they flaunt it," she says.

During a wedding or graduation celebration, for instance, some families would prepare not two, not three, but 12 *lechons*. The entire barangay is invited, naturally. If a new car model is out in the market, Lipeños just got to have it.

Make no mistake, though. The Lipeños are also warm, friendly and extremely hospitable. Guests are always served with, at the very least, a cup of coffee; at the most, a banquet, even after guests insist they have eaten breakfast and it's barely 9 a.m. Lipeños would go out of their way to make visitors comfortable, which often includes a tour around the house, including the bedrooms.

On occasional town parties, in fact, even strangers on the street are invited over for meals. "*Sinsay muna dini* (*Daan muna kayo*)," a Lipeño would say. And, unless visitors are bent on offending a potential host, an invitation to dine must not be refused.

So, *sinsay muna dini* and experience the warmth this city has to offer.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

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Women's colleges in education fair

FIVE of the country's top women's colleges will showcase their academic programs during the 14th Career Counseling and Guidance Fair to be held Sept. 11-12, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., at the Philippine Trade and Training Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, under the auspices of International Education Specialists.

The Assumption College in San Lorenzo Village, Makati City; College of the Holy Spirit on Mendiola, Manila; Miriam College on Katipunan Avenue, QC; St. Paul College in QC; and St. Scholastica's College in Manila are at the forefront of a collaborative and cooperative effort to achieve more efficient common educational goals and objectives under the Consortium of Women's Colleges (CWC).

Launched on Oct. 12, 2001, the CWC has established and fine-tuned guidelines on possible areas of cooperation, such as collaborative researches, faculty and student exchange, cross enrollment, shared-degree program, among others.

The five women's institutions are among the 27 top local universities and colleges, seven international universities, four foreign embassies, consulates and diplomatic agencies, and two local government agencies, which will be featured in more than 50 booths during the two-day exhibit.

Dubbed as "the most exciting educational event of the year," the career, counseling and guidance fair is intended to provide a forum for educators, schools, companies and students to showcase their institutional capabilities as well as to update participants on the latest developments, teaching methods and course offerings of world-class universities and colleges.

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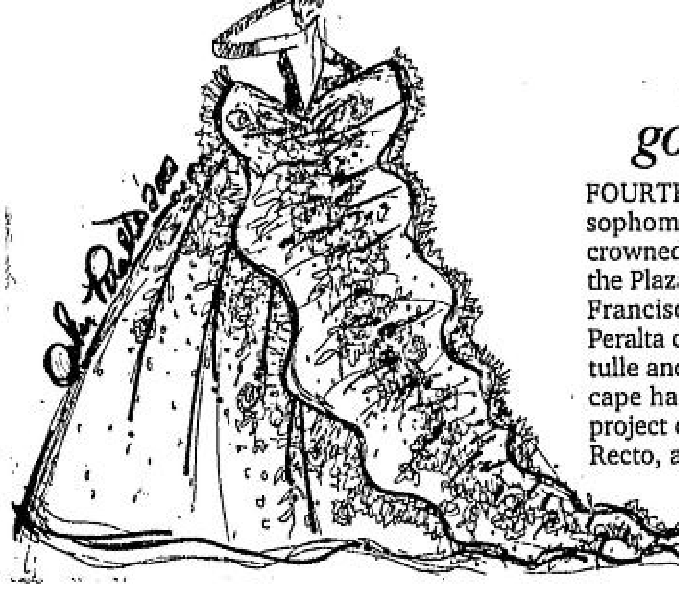
Alumni homecoming set on Sept. 7

MIRIAM (formerly Maryknoll) College will celebrate its 76th Alumni Homecoming on Sept. 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. All alumni are invited to join the activities at the Miriam College campus in Loyola Heights, QC. Registration starts at 8 a.m. A Holy Mass follows at 10 a.m. The entrance/registration fee is P100 per alumnus.

The homecoming will feature a cooking demo by Dorothy Ferraria, medical lectures by Drs. Florencio Lucero and Suey Revilla-Manalastas; food street, book fair, art exhibit, softball and archery events, and kiddie activities, among others. Highlight of the event will be a program at 2 p.m., hosted by the Silver Jubilarian High School Class of 1977. Members of the high school and college jubilarian classes of 1952, 1957, 1962, 1972 and 1977 will showcase their talents.

Call 927-2421 local 288.



Bb. Lipa 2002 wears gown fit for young queen

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD Suychelle Honrade Rodriquez, a sophomore high school student of De La Salle-Lipa, was crowned "Bb. Lipa 2002" by Gina de Venecia on Aug. 30 at the Plaza Independencia, Lipa City. The daughter of P/Supt. Francisco and Aida Rodriquez, Suychelle wore an Oskar Peralta creation with a balloon skirt, featuring layers of white tulle and a gold brocade top in champagne and copper. Her cape had a huge fern leaf design. The beauty pageant is a project of Love Foundation, headed by Mayor Vilma Santos Recto, and its proceeds will go to the indigents of Lipa.

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EDI Tekeli is flanked by top Filipina models Rissa Samson, Valerie de los Santos, Isabel Roces and Rachel Soriano

GOLFING reunion at Riviera Golf and Country Club with Alfredo Antolin of Guam and the rest of the gang

RTW fashion, out-of-town resort and reunions

TEESAW

Raul Teehankee

EDI **Tekeli** is the man responsible for bringing Mango, the worldwide ready-to-wear fashion hit, to the Philippines. Due to its success in Manila, he has now imported another Spanish fashion brand called Wai Pai.

The boutique was formally launched at the Power Plant last week with a fashion show featuring top Filipina models. Dr. **Elenita Binay** and daughter **Abby** were the guests of honor.

Lizza Nakpil brought us to Nasugbu, Batangas, a fortnight ago to check out the sprawling resort and subdivision Punta Fuego. Owned by the **Xerex-Burgos** family, it is a real estate jewel that has attracted Manila urbanites to build summer homes along the coastline. The club resort has fabulous cottages with large king-size beds and bathrooms and an infinity pool with a fabulous view of the endless sea.

Joining us for the out-of-town trip were **Twink Macaraig** of the Singapore News Channel, **Pierre Calasanz** of the Philippine Tatler and **Raoul Chee Kee** of Men's Zone.

Last month, I went on two special journeys: First was the cruise organized by **Keren Pascual** and, second, a golf tournament held in Guam planned by **Dingdong Avanzado**. Both trips were positive bonding experiences, and as soon as the respective groups returned to Manila, reunions were immediately planned and held.

Tina and **Ricco Ocampo** hosted the cruise group for dinner at their tastefully designed Dasmariñas Village residence while my golfing reunion was held at the Riviera Golf and Country Club in Cavite.

TINA Montinola, Mara de la Rama and Tina Tinio

MORTEN Bremelnoej and Christine San Diego

ERNEST Escaler and Albert Martinez

REUNION time with Tina Maristela Ocampo and Beng Dee

KAREN Davila, Dennis Valdes and Anne Torres

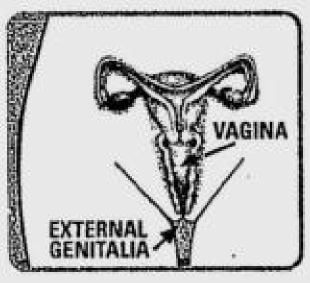
VINNY Vicklein and Vicky Aquino

FRANCES Zulueta and Leica Carpo

The Truth
Every Woman Should Know

Kung walang sakit, 'di mo kailangan ng gamot for everyday feminine care.

FACT 1: The vagina and the external genitalia are not the same.
The vagina is the canal that connects the uterus and the external genitalia. The external genitalia, on the other hand, is the exposed part of the female sex organ which includes the outer and inner lip covered with pubic hair.

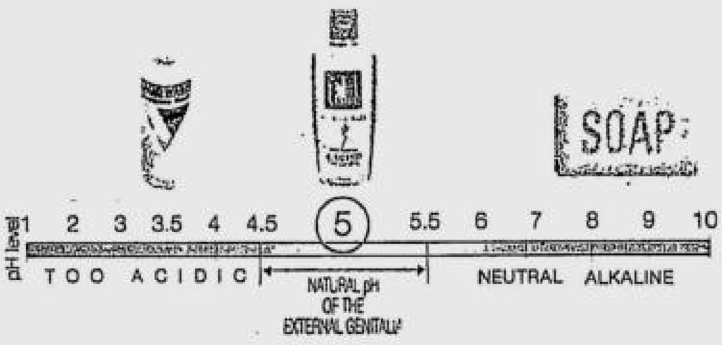


FACT 2: The vagina and the external genitalia have different pH levels.
The vagina has a pH level near 3.5 while the external genitalia has a pH level between 4.5 and 5.5.

pH level refers to the level of acidity or alkalinity of a liquid measured from pH 1 to 14. pH levels that are lower than pH 4.5 are considered too acidic while those higher than pH 5.5 are too alkaline for your external genitalia.

FACT 3: You need a daily feminine wash that matches the pH level of your external genitalia and not your vagina.
Remember that it is your external genitalia that you wash everyday, not your vagina. You wash the part that is exposed and not the canal that is inside.

FACT 4: That is why for everyday feminine care, 'di mo kailangan ng gamot. You need an everyday feminine wash.
Ang feminine wash na gamot should be used for the external genitalia only when there are infections and irritations. It is too harsh for everyday use for the external genitalia. Ang soap naman too alkaline. Using either of these will disrupt the natural balance in your external genitalia and may cause irritation and dryness when used daily.



FACT 5: For everyday feminine care, you need pH care.
pH care is not soap at hindi rin gamot. It has the right pH level of 5 that matches the pH level of the external genitalia, thus maintaining its natural balance. Kaya tamang-tama for daily use. With **pH care**, you' re clean, mabango at malayo sa infections.

Be extra careful in choosing your feminine wash.
Para malaman kung gamot, check out the following:
(GENERIC BOX) May generic box at generic name.
(DRUG REGISTRATION) May DRHR o Drug Registration Home Remedy number.
(INDICATION) For douching or for the treatment of vaginitis, vulvitis and other infections.

pH care
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RED anthurium with orange spadix is one of the more common varieties.

Going Dutch in 'barako' country

Both plants and technology at the Agrikultura Pilipina farm came from the Netherlands

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Mike Alquinto

TUCKED in a wooded part of *barako* country, at the foot of Mount Malarayat in Barangay Tipakan, Lipa City, is a little bit of Holland.

There, in a modern complex of fully-computerized greenhouses, rows and rows of anthurium are grown both for cutflower and foliage. The complex itself bears the name Holland Anthurium, suggestive not only of the plants' origin but also of its links to Holland Blooms, a cutflower retailer in Metro Manila malls. But the whole spread—with a total land area of 23 ha—is formally known as Agrikultura Pilipina Inc. (API).

Opened in 1992, the complex is owned by Gerry and Virginia Bote, who segued from the manpower export business into the cutflower industry. Right now, only two hectares of the land is devoted to the growing of anthurium, which is done hydroponically or without soil. Volcanic rock is instead used as growing medium.

Nicon C. Cimeni, who started as an agriculturist in the farm when it opened in 1992 and is now the manager, said API started with 20,000 mother plants imported from Nic van der Knaap, Anthura, just outside Amsterdam. The plants are not the only thing Dutch about the farm. Even the technology used came from the Netherlands.

Experts from the Dutch nursery stayed in Lipa for two weeks to supervise the construction of the covered greenhouses and the sophisticated network of tubes, pipes and wires that ensure that plants get the required amount of water, nutrients and pesticides everyday, and the temperature in the greenhouses remains stable. Cimeni and other key

GOING/ p.C2

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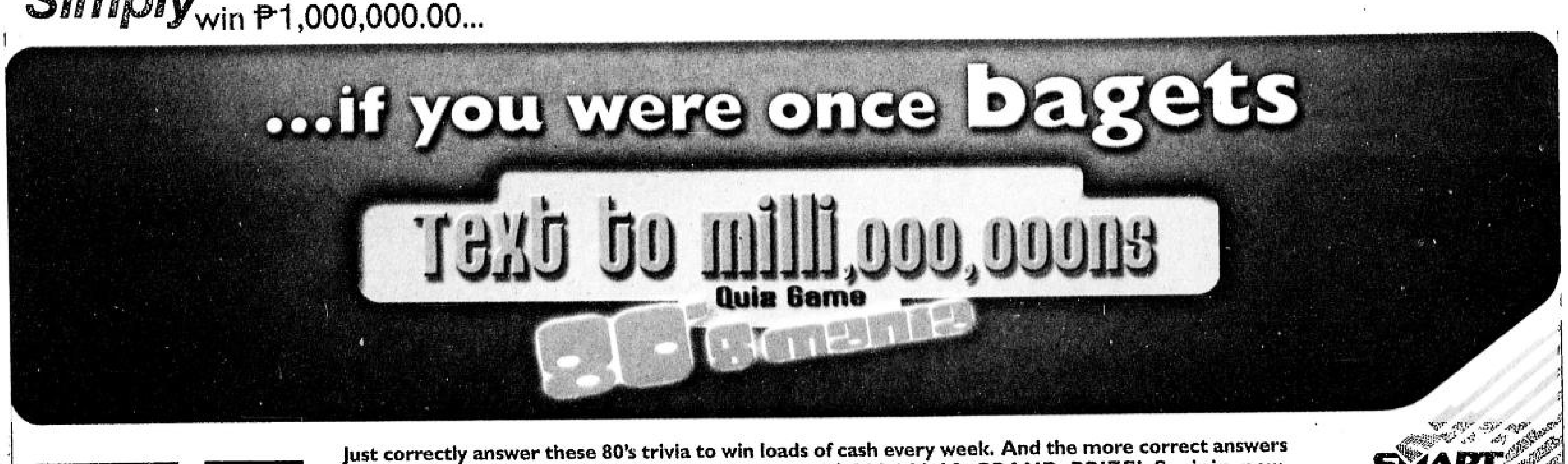

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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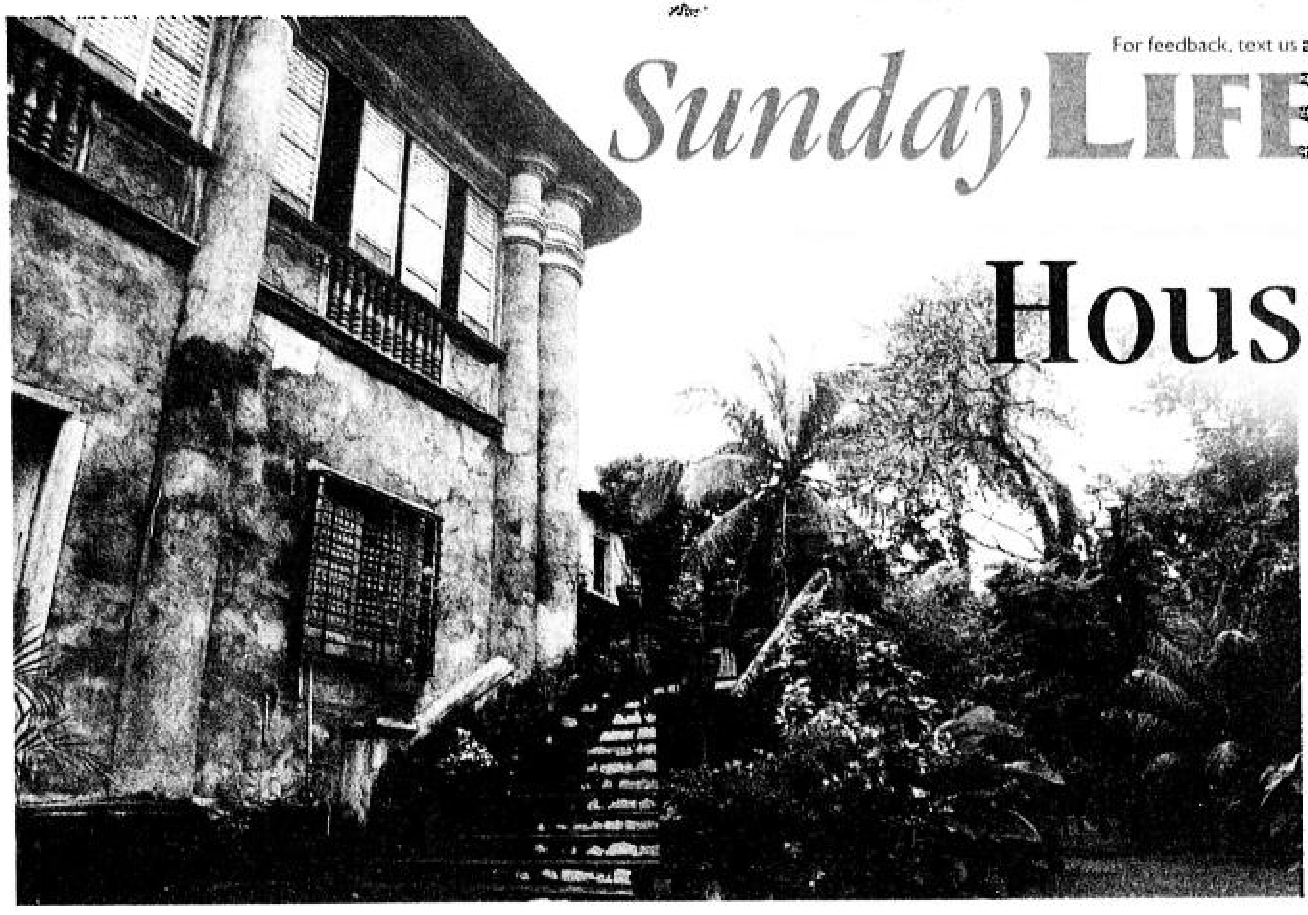

THE FAÇADE of the Bautistas' *bahay na bato* built in 1881

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Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Mike Alquinto

IN THE late 19th century, Lipa enjoyed unprecedented fame and prosperity for being the world's sole supplier of coffee beans. This was the glorious era when the town cultivated an aristocracy.

Wrote native Lipeño Teodoro M. Kalaw: "People everywhere talked of its very rich aristocracy, its handsome carriages drawn by huge horses. The *señoritos*, dressed in the style of the day, in shirts spangled with sequins that glittered in the sun, went about their business mounted on spirited Arabian horses... Calle Real was crowded with shops, stores and bazaars, like Manila... The sons of the wealthy paraded around the town escorted by a host of servants, who opened the way for them and protected them from the jostle of the populace."

It was at this time when members of the Lipa aristocracy rivaled one another by constructing edifices, their villas and mansions, the *bahay na bato*. They competed in their love for ostentation.

Continued Kalaw: "Money was splurged on clothes, interior décor and pictures; on rare crystals and china ordered from Europe; on curtains of the finest silk; on slender black chairs from Vienna; on exquisite table wines and foods. Lipa society sought to equal the halls and banquets of Madrid itself, the Metropolis, the Guiding Star, the Ideal..."

Then, half a century later, the Pacific War literally razed the town to cinders. Of Lipa's numerous heritage structures, only five have remained.

Solid architecture

One of these is the hulking Bautista ancestral house. Even then, the house on P. Torres Street is in an advanced state of deterioration.

It was built in 1881 on a major thoroughfare, as an old town's elite would build their edifices where they could see the events below. What impresses the visitor at first view is the solidity of its squarish, fortress-like architecture enhanced by faux columns.

A narrow pathway leads from the gate to two flights of brick staircases to the side entrance on the second floor. The middle landing with checkerboard flooring of red and white may serve as a small *azotea* overlooking the garden and orchard.

Arranged in the foyer and the wide drawing room are three sofa sets, wicker chairs, marble-topped side tables, a divan. Two huge identical mirrors from Austria with elaborately carved frames flank the doorway to the master's bedroom.

As in the typical *bahay na bato*, the rooms are constructed with *ventanilla*, the woodwork between ceiling and wall for air circulation. Flooring is of wide solid planks of polished hardwood in the living room and brick tiles in the other parts of the house.

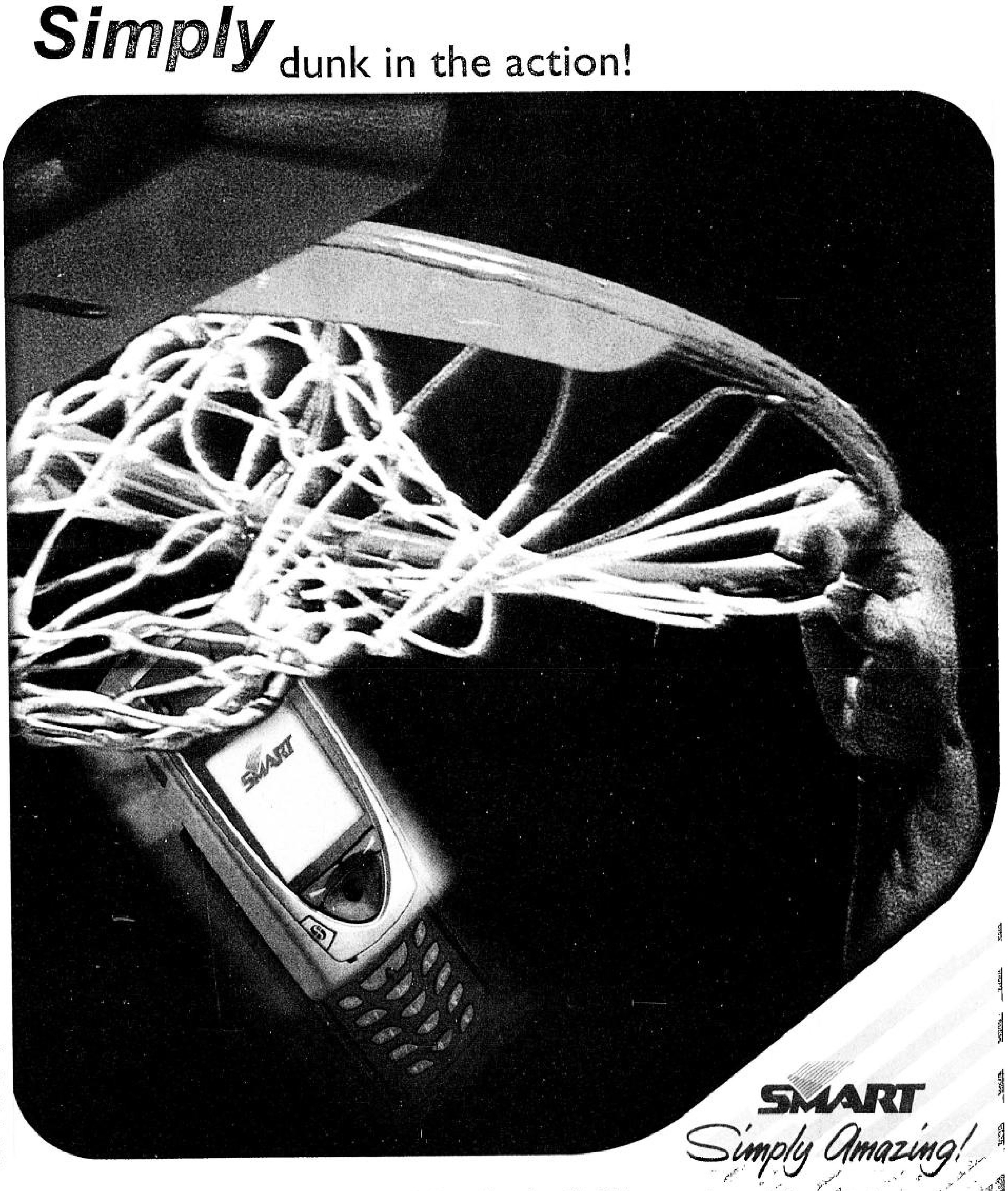
The upper level is wrapped with sliding window shutters of *capiz* shell panes, which are paralleled, with sliding louver windows for ventilation. The *barandilla* is for the children looking out to the street below while the procession of the *santos* was passing by during the fiesta and the *cuaresma*.

Original structure

A grander exemplar of the *bahay na bato* in Lipa is the sprawling Casa de Segunda on Rizal Street. Built in 1880, it stands on a 1,600-sq m lot, with a garden, a fountain, a

HOUSE/ p.D6

CASA Segunda's altar with old novenas



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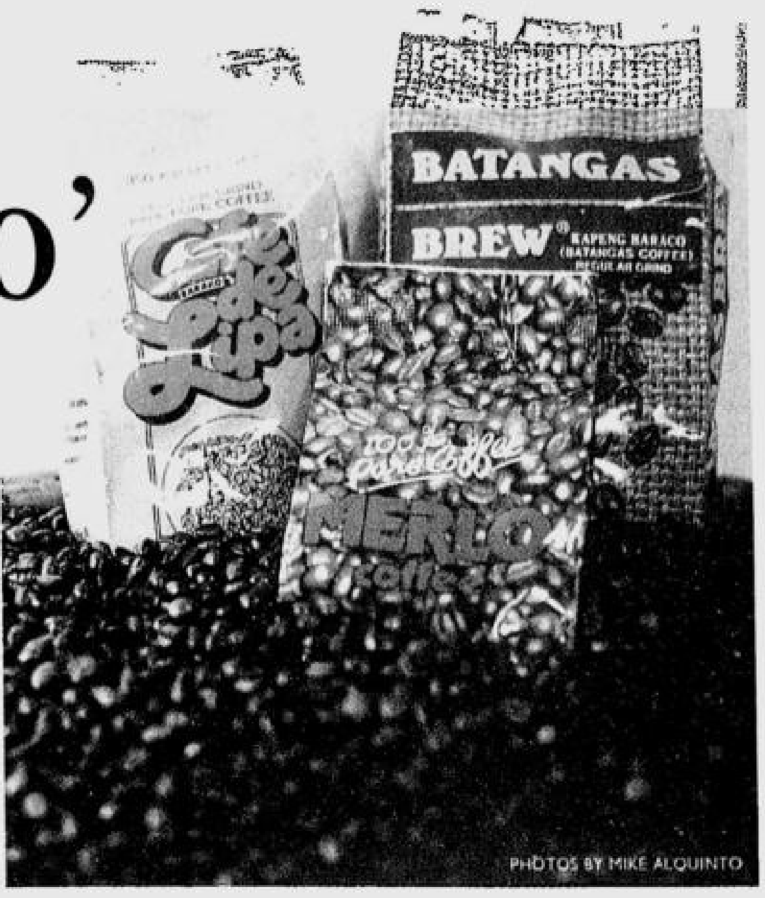
Question 2 between 8pm - 9pm	Question 2 between 8pm - 9pm
	Question 3 between 9pm - 10pm
	Question 4 between 10pm - 11pm

SUMMARY OF SOLAR SPORTS SPECIALS

PROGRAM	CHANNEL	BROADCAST SCHEDULE	DATE
China vs Germany	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	30-Aug
USA vs Algeria	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	30-Aug
Spain vs Yugoslavia	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	31-Aug
USA vs Germany	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	31-Aug
Canada vs Yugoslavia	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 7 PM - 9 PM	1-Sep
USA vs China	RPN/SOLAR	9 PM - 11 PM	1-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	3-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	3-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	4-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	4-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	5-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN	7 PM - 9 PM	5-Sep
Quarterfinals 2	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	6-Sep
Quarterfinals 1	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	6-Sep
Quarterfinals 4	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	7-Sep
Quarterfinals 3	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	7-Sep
Semi-Finals 2	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 7 PM - 9 PM	8-Sep
Semi-Finals 1	RPN/SOLAR	9 PM - 11 PM	8-Sep
3rd - 4th Place Final	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 6 PM - 8 PM	9-Sep
Championship	RPN/SOLAR	8 PM - 10 PM	9-Sep

* as of Aug 23

Land of the mighty 'barako'



PHOTOS BY MIKE ALQUINTO

By Cathy Babao Guballa

Lipa City's fabled past of coffee haciendas may be gone, but the romance remains

JOSE Mercado likes to tell his visitors that he was "born in a coffee sack under a coffee tree." Of course, visitors to his coffee factory in Lipa City, Batangas, doubt the veracity of that tale, but it will do to stress Mercado's contention that coffee runs through his veins. Perhaps a less mythical but more scientific way of putting it is that he is the sort of man who cannot function with less than a dozen coffee cups per day.

Teodoro M. Kalaw, one of Lipa's esteemed sons, wrote about how coffee bloomed in Lipa back in the 1800s. The article became the basis of a later article by his daughter, Maria Kalaw-Katigbak. The first coffee plants, according to her, grew in the Villa de Lipa in 1814. "In 1887, Lipa and San Jose, the small town next to it, together harvested an income of P2.5 million! A lot of money back in that era!" She also wrote that Lipa had an annual income of P4 million from coffee alone. However, by 1888 the coffee harvest had declined, and by 1891 and 1892, the coffee plants had totally disappeared.

Today, there remain a few plantations in the town of Lipa, one of the largest being the Mercado coffee plantation, which is all of 50 hectares. "Coffee needs to be grown no less than 500 ft above sea level," Mercado explains. The terrain in Lipa is ideal for this kind of farming. He says that most of the coffee farms have given way to land reform, golf courses and industrial estates. Philippine coffee is available in four varieties of robusta, excelsa, liberica and Arabica, and in three forms: green beans, roasted/ground and instant/soluble.

JOSE MERCADO. Coffee runs through his veins.

The Mercados grow predominantly Philippine liberica, locally known as *kapeng barako*, because of the unusually big cherries it produces. It is characterized by very strong distinctive taste and flavor.

Storing coffee

Mercado says that the best way to store coffee is to place it in an airtight jar away from direct sunlight, and that brewing it through a coffee press is the best way to serve coffee. His company, Merlo Agricultural Corp., manufactures six varieties of coffee from a family recipe that has been handed down from generation to generation.

This proud Lipeño will tell you that he has, in fact, helped out a lot of other coffee plantation owners establish their farms, whose products are available in supermarkets. The produce includes the very popular Café Barako de Lipa, the granddaddy of the *barako* varieties, a full-bodied Vienna roast that produces an intense cup of coffee. Then there is Batangas Brew Kapeng Barako, which is a blend that is a little bold and well-rounded. The Special Blend is a bold and straightforward, no-nonsense coffee. Philippine Select produces a cup with chocolate-like body and spice. Batangas Lite is aromatic and light-bodied. The Espresso Blend is a special blend of various coffee beans fed to an espresso machine to produce an intense cup of coffee.

From the land where coffee once bloomed come varieties of coffee to suit the inhabitants of a land with 7,000-plus islands. They may pair that Barako with Ka Ninay's excellent, legendary *puto*, also from Lipa—oh, but that's another story.

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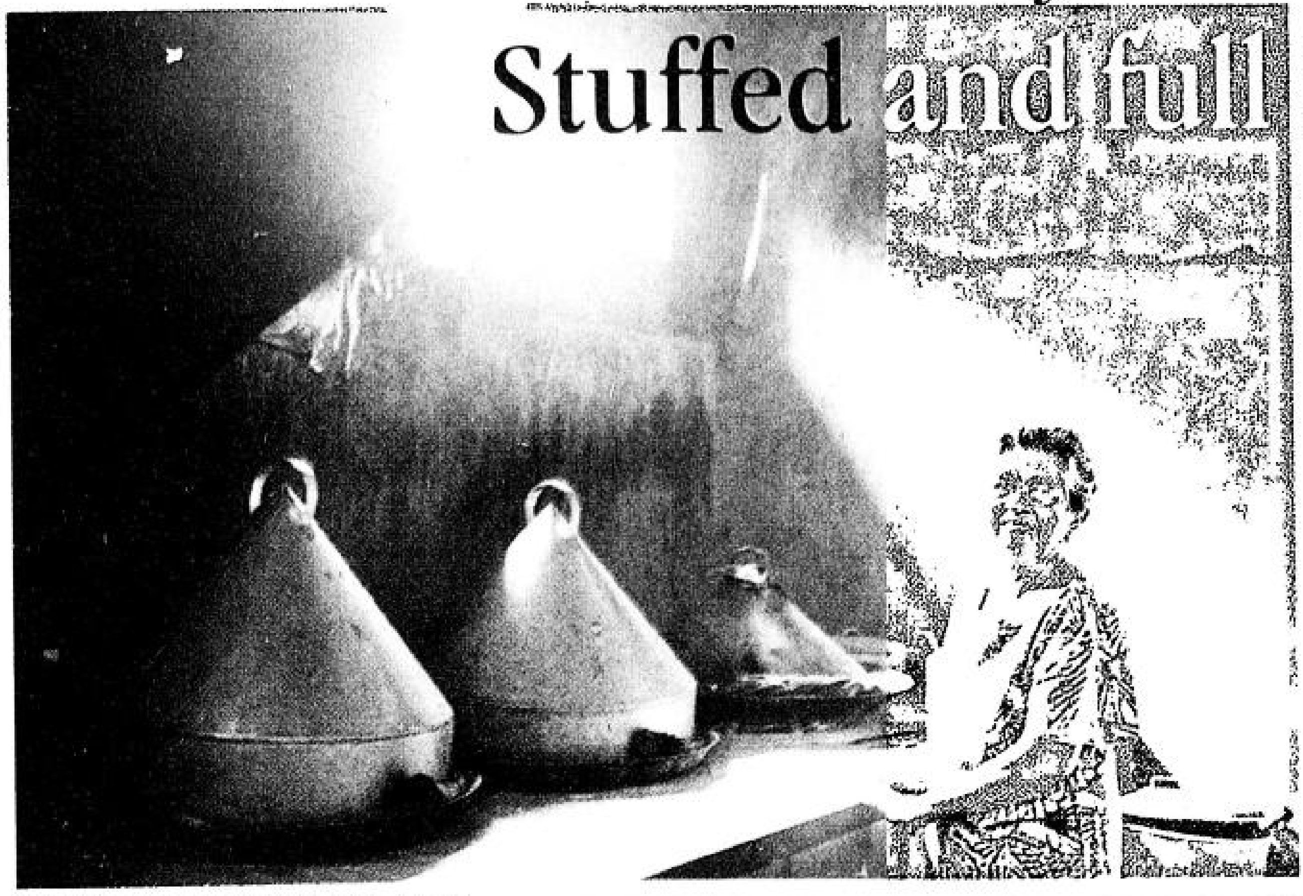
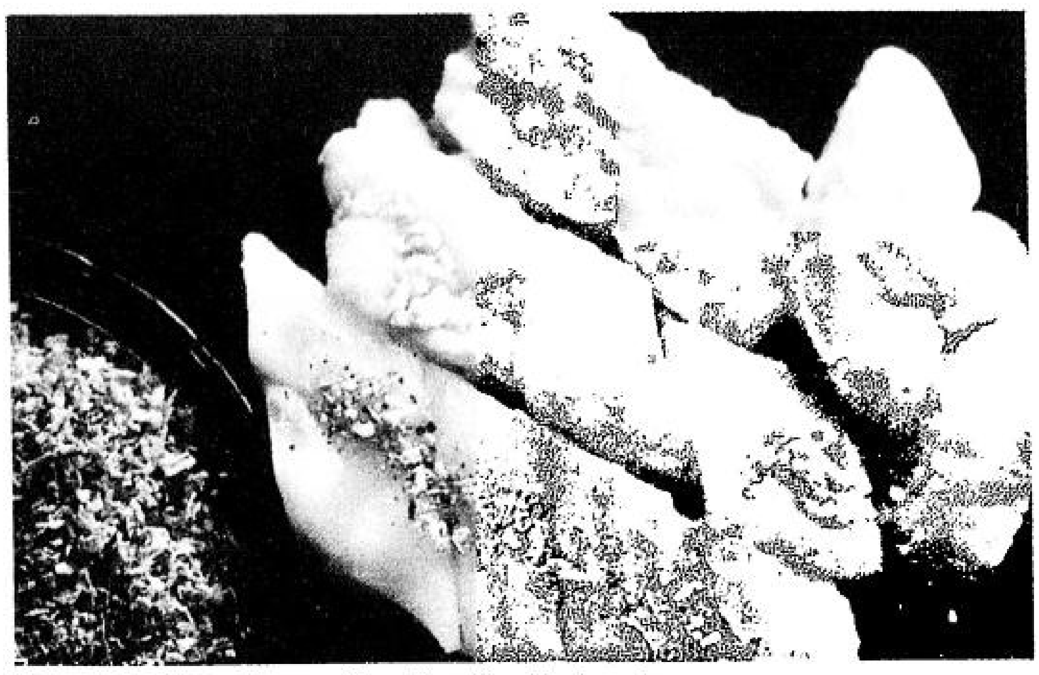
Stuffed and full in very filling Lipa



LOLA Augustinia de la Peña, 74, is still actively running the business.



LIPA'S native rice cakes are literally selling like hotcakes.

Home to the delicious native catch 'tawilis' and 'maliputo,' Lipa is also the city of rice cakes prepared in vintage method and noodle dishes that extend the frontiers of cuisine

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Mike Alquinto

OUR quick trip to Lipa City, home of the great-tasting *kapeng barako*, gave us a glimpse—and a taste—of its delicacies native only to this progressive city. Aside from its famous prize fish *tawilis* and *maliputo*, Lipa is also popular for its delicious *kakanin* and *pancit*.

Basic to any region are the rice cakes of the season. Lipa's native rice cakes are literally selling like hotcakes. Leading the way is Ninay's Special Puto, Tamalis and Kutsinta on Malvar Street, near the public market. Ninay's has been catering to both foreign and local customers for the past 50 years.

It was the late Isabel Medina who started selling her *kakanin* to relatives and friends. The business then passed on to *lola* Augustinia de la Peña, now 74 years old and is still actively running the business. According to *lola* Augustinia, who is still strong and cheerful, the family cooks *puto*, *tamalis* and *kutsinta* as early as 3 a.m. The products are sold out before 6 a.m. We were surprised to find out that they make about 40 *bilaos* of each kind a day. "*Sanayan lang 'yan*," claims *lola* Augustinia. "*Napakasimple lang naman gawin 'yang mga 'yan.*"

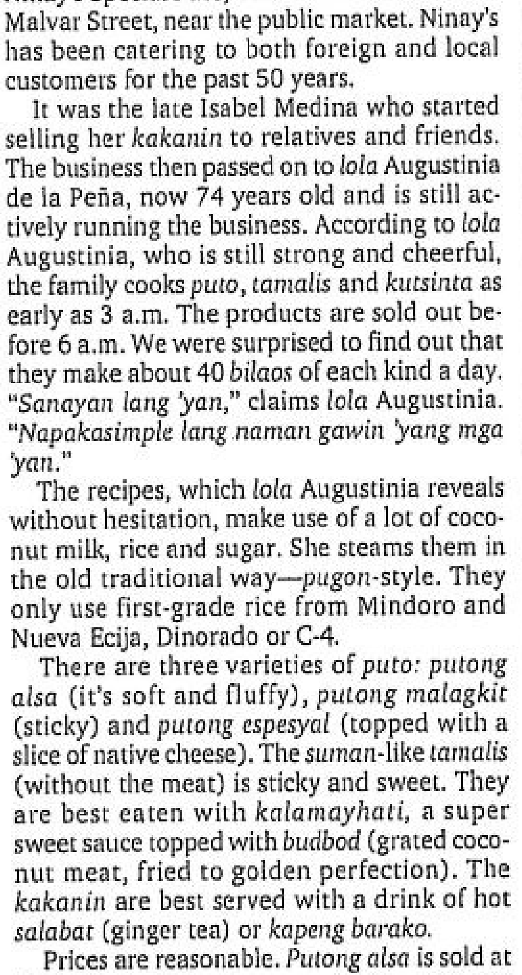
The recipes, which *lola* Augustinia reveals without hesitation, make use of a lot of coconut milk, rice and sugar. She steams them in the old traditional way—*pugon*-style. They only use first-grade rice from Mindoro and Nueva Ecija, Dinorado or C-4.

There are three varieties of *puto: putong alsa* (it's soft and fluffy), *putong malagkit* (sticky) and *putong espesyal* (topped with a slice of native cheese). The *suman*-like *tamalis* (without the meat) is sticky and sweet. They are best eaten with *kalamayhati*, a super sweet sauce topped with *budbod* (grated coconut meat, fried to golden perfection). The *kakanin* are best served with a drink of hot *salabat* (ginger tea) or *kapeng barako*.

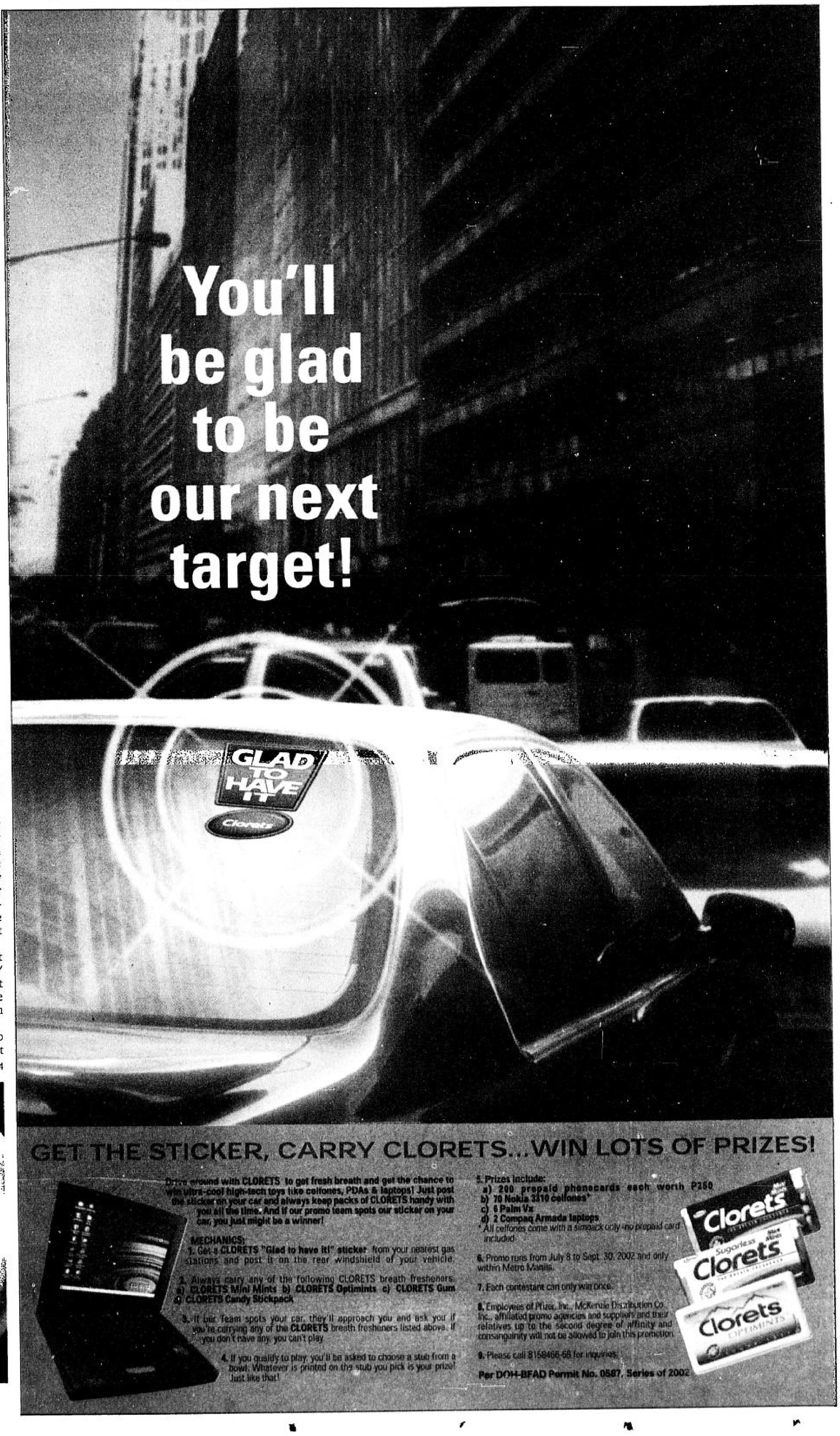
Prices are reasonable. *Putong alsa* is sold at P175 per *bilao; putong malagkit* at P350/*bilao; puto espesyal* at P250/*bilao; tamalis* at P22/4 pcs; and *kutsinta* at P1 a piece. The *puto, tamalis* and *kutsinta* are packaged in *bilao* lined with banana leaf.

The younger family members have also taken to the business, boosting its success. But

STUFFED/ p.D4



NINAY'S special *kutsinta*



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Drive around with CLORETS to get fresh breath and get the chance to win ultra-cool high-tech toys like celfones, PDAs & laptops! Just post the sticker on your car and always keep packs of CLORETS handy with you all the time. And if our promo team spots our sticker on your car, you just might be a winner!

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2. Always carry any of the following CLORETS breath fresheners: a) CLORETS Mini Mints b) CLORETS Optimints c) CLORETS Gum d) CLORETS Candy Stickpack
3. If our Team spots your car, they'll approach you and ask you if you're carrying any of the CLORETS breath fresheners listed above. If you don't have any, you can't play.
4. If you qualify to play, you'll be asked to choose a stub from a bowl. Whatever is printed on the stub you pick is your prize! Just like that!
5. Prizes include:
  a) 200 prepaid phonecards each worth P250
  b) 70 Nokia 3310 celfones*
  c) 6 Palm Vx
  d) 2 Compaq Armada laptops
* All celfones come with a simpack only -no prepaid card included
6. Promo runs from July 8 to Sept. 30, 2002 and only within Metro Manila.
7. Each contestant can only win once.
8. Employees of Pfizer, Inc., McKenzie Distribution Co. Inc., affiliated promo agencies and suppliers and their relatives up to the second degree of affinity and consanguinity will not be allowed to join this promotion.
9. Please call 8158466-68 for inquiries.

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0587, Series of 2002

THE GLASS-PANELED front of La Cuisine

BAKED mussels

Stuffed and full in very filling Lipa

From page D3

it is still the inimitable taste of the original recipe that spells the difference.

Oodles of noodles

Right outside the Lipa Public College and PNP headquarters stands the 3 Kids Lomi House. People from all walks of life cluster around this eatery to get a bite of the famous *pancit langlang, pancit bihon/canton* and *lomi.*

Pancit langlang is a merry mix of *sotanghon* and fresh miki cooked in flavorful broth, with flaked pork *adobo*, toasted garlic, crunchy *chicharon*, onion rings, baby shrimps and other delicacies sprinkled on top. It is seasoned well with *toyo*, *calamansi* and chili sauce.

3 Kids Lomi House, owned by Perla Valle, has been in the noodle business for 20 years now. It is named after the owner's *tres marias* —Vanessa, Trisha and Celeste. Valle learned how to cook pancit through Leandro Alcaraz, who once worked in a Chinese restaurant. "I then financed his education while he helped me start the business," says Valle.

Pancit langlang is sold at P240/*bilao* and P140 for half the size. The family makes about 100 *bilao* a day, especially during the holidays. What actually makes the *pancit langlang* and *lomi* different from the rest is the use of homemade *kikiam*, a meat roll wrapped in lard, steamed then fried and melts in your mouth. "People order *lomi* with extra slices of *kikiam*."

Fine dining

La Cuisine is not your usual eating place in Lipa. You have to dress up a little to suit the ambience. This is one special dining place for the gourmet eaters. Apparently, this is also the only fine dining restaurant you can find in the city.

Ironically, La Cuisine is located not only in the heart of the city, but tucked inside the campus of De La Salle-Lipa. La Cuisine is owned and run by 33-year-old Vicky Luis Katigbak, who happens to run the campus cafeteria as well.

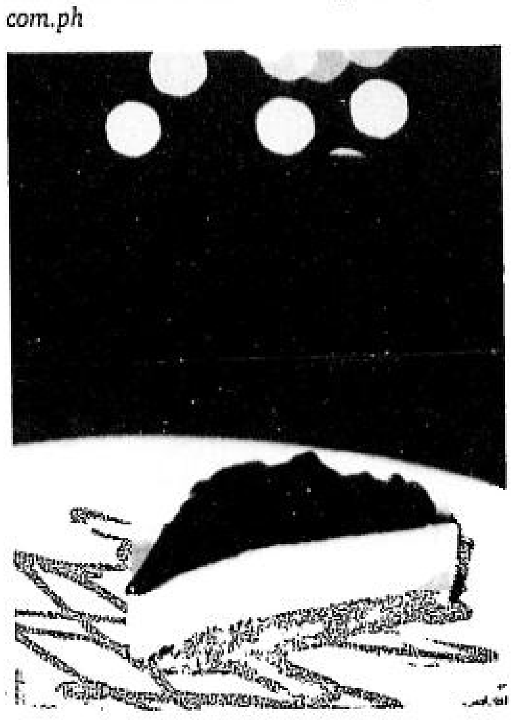
Together with consultant-chef Nelson Roque of Nestlé, Vicky serves continental dishes. The food is served buffet-style. There are days when she offers all-Filipino, all-Japanese and all-Chinese menus. Bestsellers in the house are Beef Stroganoff, Roasted Herbed Chicken with Gravy, Baked Mussels, Baby Grouper with White Wine Sauce, Pork Picatta with Pineapple and Herbs, and American Ham. Desserts include Blueberry Cheesecakes and Sans Rival and Apple Pie. La Cuisine also bakes its own bread roll, which is soft, sweet and really filling.

The restaurant opened only last June. Since it sits inside the school, HRM (hotel and restaurant management) students get to apprentice in the place.

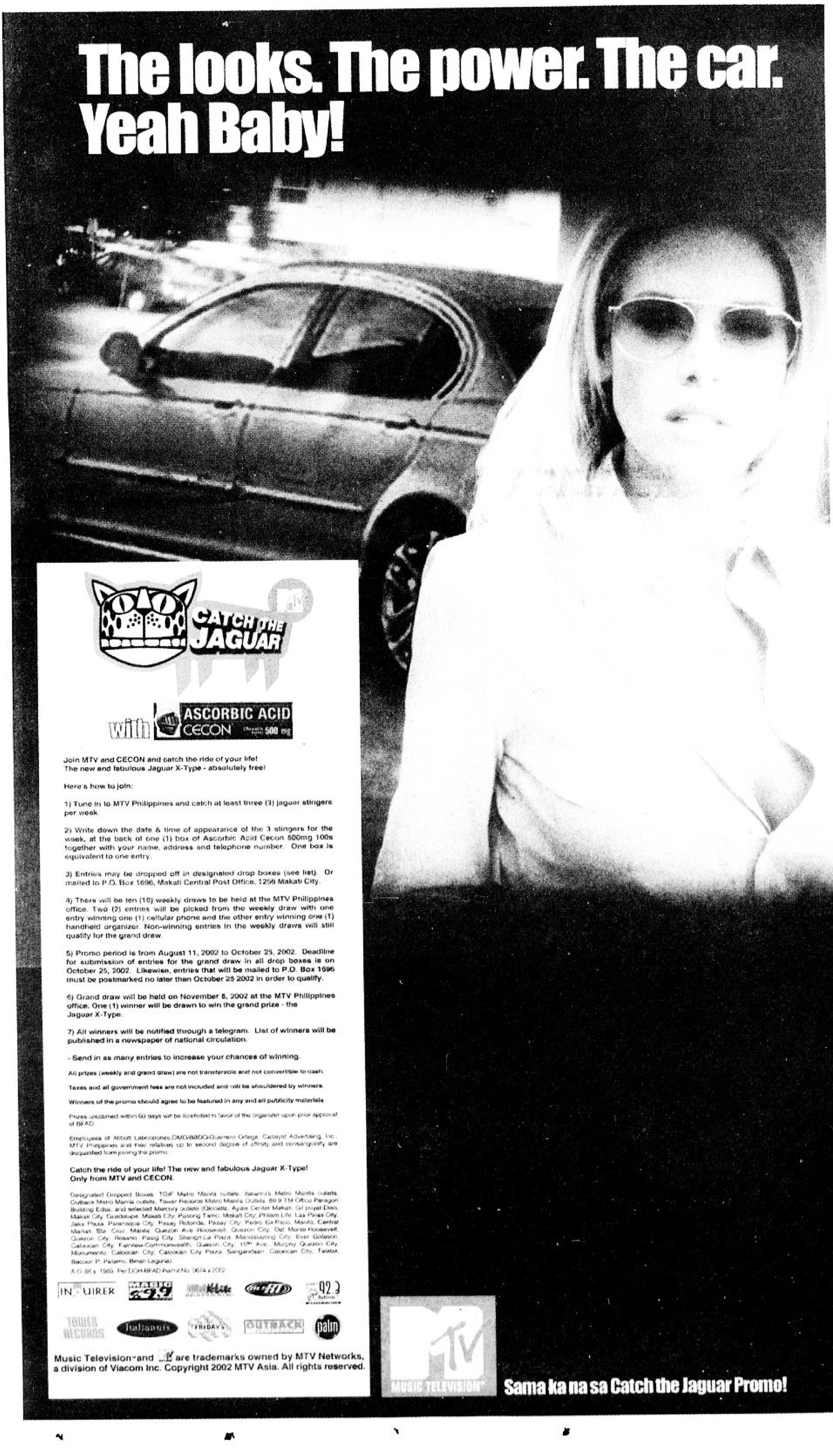
The 50-seater restaurant has a classy ambience—it is furnished with an intimate cluster of tables and chairs. Not daunted by its limited size, La Cuisine has a quaint yet contemporary look. The walls are rendered with solid hues of green, interrupted by wood paneling. The soft light gives off a relaxing atmosphere.

The lunch is served for P150; dinner is at P199 with a free glass of iced tea and a cup of brewed coffee. At night, it offers wines to guests, but not to students. But, how would she know? "I know almost everybody in school," says Katigbak.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph



MELT-IN-YOUR-MOUTH blueberry cheesecake



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Here's how to join:

1) Tune in to MTV Philippines and catch at least three (3) jaguar stingers per week.

2) Write down the date & time of appearance of the 3 stingers for the week, at the back of one (1) box of Ascorbic Acid Cecon 500mg 100s together with your name, address and telephone number. One box is equivalent to one entry.

3) Entries may be dropped off in designated drop boxes (see list). Or mailed to P.O. Box 1696, Makati Central Post Office, 1256 Makati City.

4) There will be ten (10) weekly draws to be held at the MTV Philippines office. Two (2) entries will be picked from the weekly draw with one entry winning one (1) cellular phone and the other entry winning one (1) handheld organizer. Non-winning entries in the weekly draws will still qualify for the grand draw.

5) Promo period is from August 11, 2002 to October 25, 2002. Deadline for submission of entries for the grand draw in all drop boxes is on October 25, 2002. Likewise, entries that will be mailed to P.O. Box 1696 must be postmarked no later than October 25 2002 in order to qualify.

6) Grand draw will be held on November 8, 2002 at the MTV Philippines office. One (1) winner will be drawn to win the grand prize - the Jaguar X-Type.

7) All winners will be notified through a telegram. List of winners will be published in a newspaper of national circulation.

- Send in as many entries to increase your chances of winning.

All prizes (weekly and grand draw) are not transferable and not convertible to cash.

Taxes and all government fees are not included and will be shouldered by winners.

Winners of the promo should agree to be featured in any and all publicity materials.

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Baby boomers take conservative view of today's youth, survey says

ASIAN society, including Filipinos, still expect the youth of today (those between ages 15-19) to abide by conservative standards. This is one of the key findings of the Asian Lifestyles survey by MasterCard International.

A total of 5,406 consumers from 13 Asia/Pacific markets were surveyed from June 1-21. The survey tracked each country's expectations of youths in six broad areas: responsibility, personal finance, consumption pattern/priority, sources of influence, entrepreneurial drive and technology.

The key results of the first Asian Lifestyles survey include:

- More than half of consumers in Asia/Pacific believe that the most important consumption priority for the youth today is education.
- Parents should still have some say on how teens manage their finances. Over 60 percent of the respondents across the region stated that parents should have the most influence over a teenager's spending decisions. This sentiment seems to be more pronounced in the Philippines, where 83 percent of the respondents put parents as the top choice. Peers and media came in a distant second and third, respectively.
- Respondents in virtually all markets (except China) reported that striking a good balance between career and family should be the single most important lifelong goal for youths.
- The personal computer/laptop is perceived to be the most indispensable technology for youths today.

Teenagers are an increasingly powerful and influential consumer group today. Not only do they have greater purchasing power, they set the trends today across diverse industries—in technology, media and even in determining new and innovative financial products.

MasterCard introduced payment cards such as Mondex E-campus card, the first Gen X smart card, the Win Dance Card, and the Maybank Flash card, specifically targeted at the younger generation. "We understand the payment needs of the youth better than any other payments company," said Stuart McDonald, senior vice president, corporate services for Asia/Pacific, MasterCard International.

Setting priorities

More than half of the consumers in Asia/Pacific (53 percent) think that teens should make education their highest consumption priority. This figure is highest in the Philippines (76 percent). In Japan and Korea, education comes second to books.

In terms of choosing careers, 24 percent of the total respondents said that teens should strive to earn enough to get by while 21 percent answered that teens should strive to rise to the top of a multinational organization. However, among Filipino respondents, the latter is the more popular choice.

Who they listen to

Regionwide, 62 percent believe that parents should exert the most influence, while peers and media came in second and third at 16 percent and 11 percent, respectively. The markets with higher percentage of consumers who believe that parents should exert the most influence are Australia (86 percent), New Zealand (84 percent) and the Philippines (83 percent). In Hong Kong, peers ranked highest at 45 percent, and in Korea, the media ranked highest at 30 percent.

Financial matters

A significant number or 93 percent of the total respondents hold the opinion that teens should maintain personal savings accounts. Singaporean respondents had strong opinions about this issue—100 percent of the respondents firmly believe that every teenager should keep a savings account. Japanese consumers were not as concerned about teenagers maintaining savings accounts, but even then, the figure was still a significant 64 percent.

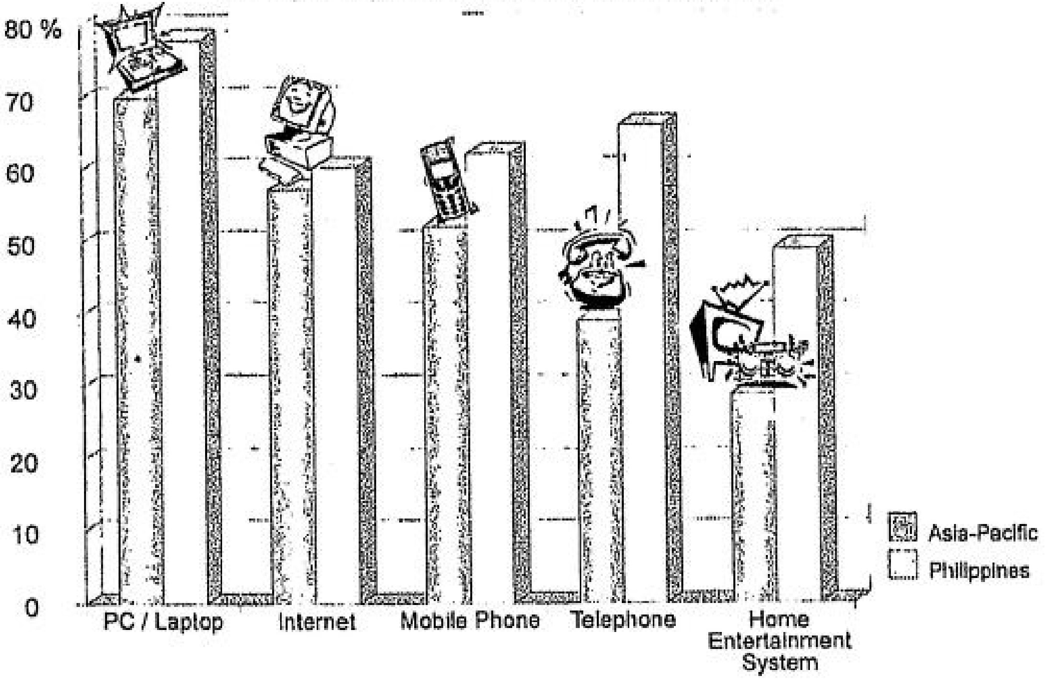
Responsibility

In Asia/Pacific, 62 percent of the consumers answered that teenagers were not doing enough to protect the environment. Taiwan was rated as the country with the highest percentage of consumers who believed that teens were not doing enough for the environment (83 percent).

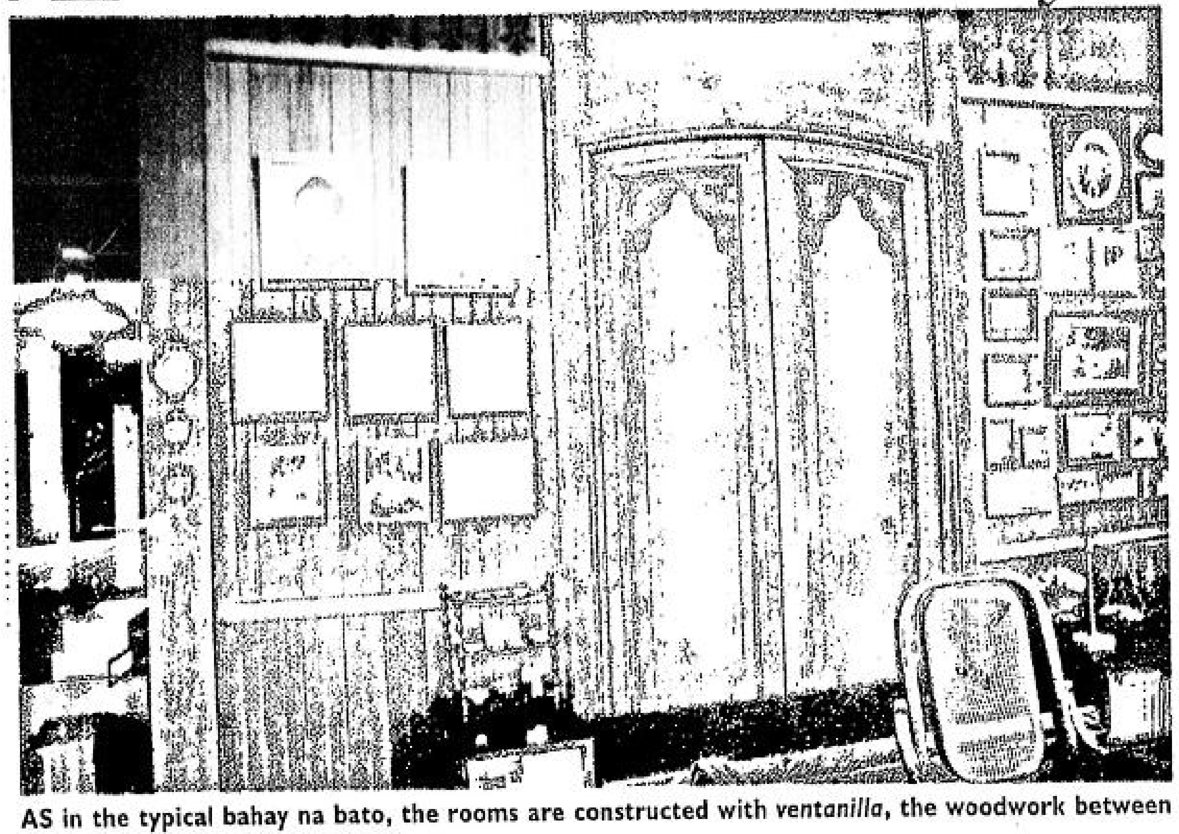
Approximately 73 percent of the total respondents said that teenagers should actively contribute to charities. The sentiment was particularly strong in the Philippines, where 83 percent of the respondents said teenagers should do this.

MASTERCARD ASIAN LIFESTYLES SURVEY
(June 2002)

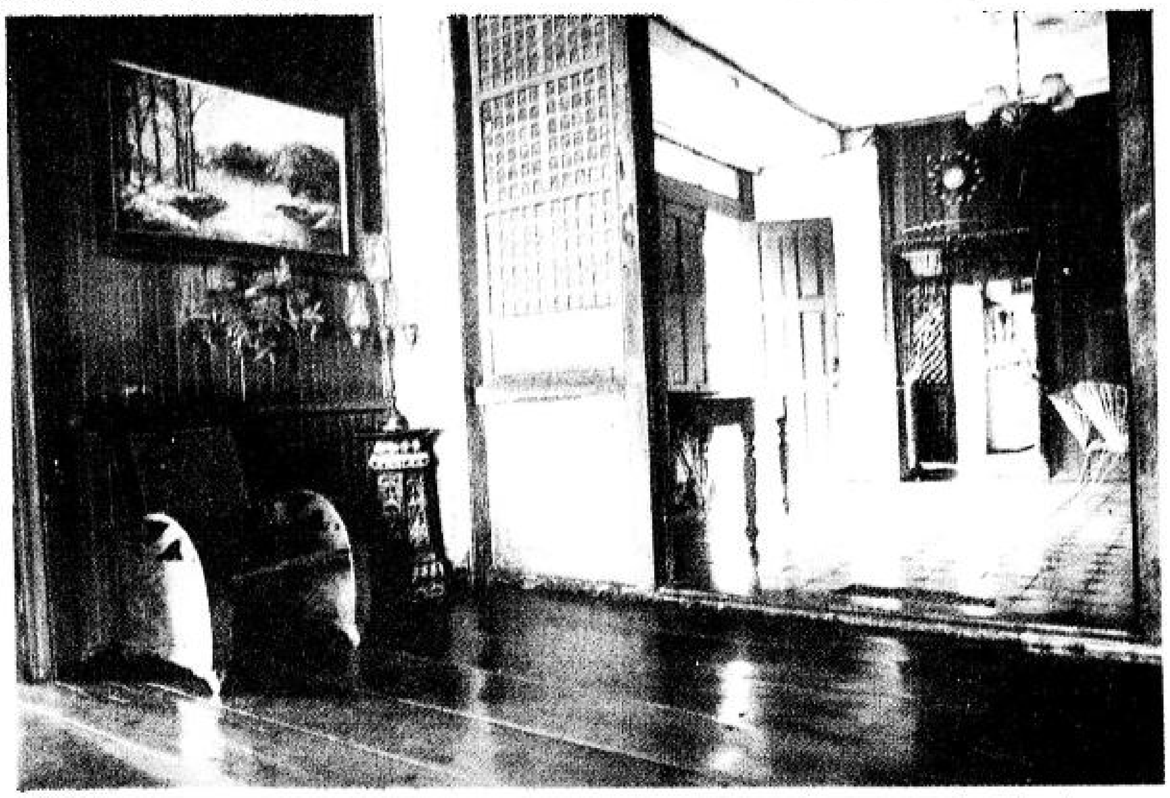
Q: What do you consider to be the most indispensable technology for the youth's personal daily life? (multiple responses)



TEKKI MUNA!
TEKKI
Yakiudon
STIR FRY
TEKKI
Yakiudon
CHILI-HOT
TEKKI YAKIUDON
Magbago ka na!



AS in the typical bahay na bato, the rooms are constructed with *ventanilla*, the woodwork between ceiling and wall for air circulation.



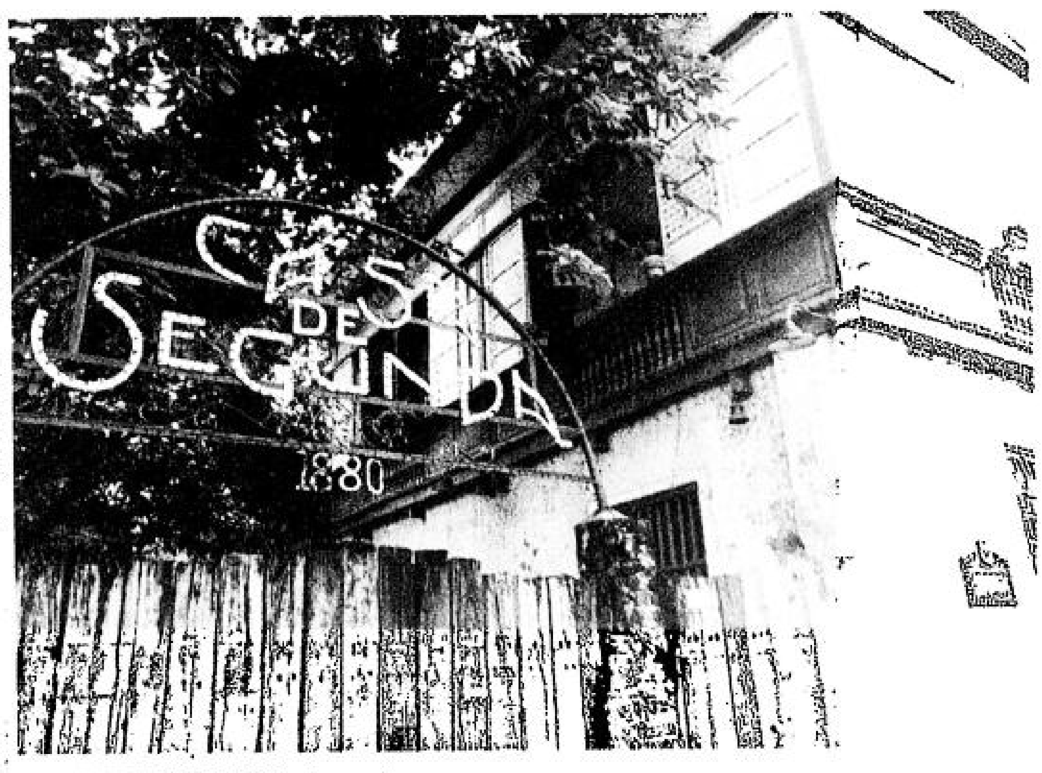
THE CHECKERBOARD flooring of red and white may serve as a small *azotea* overlooking the garden and orchard.

From page D1

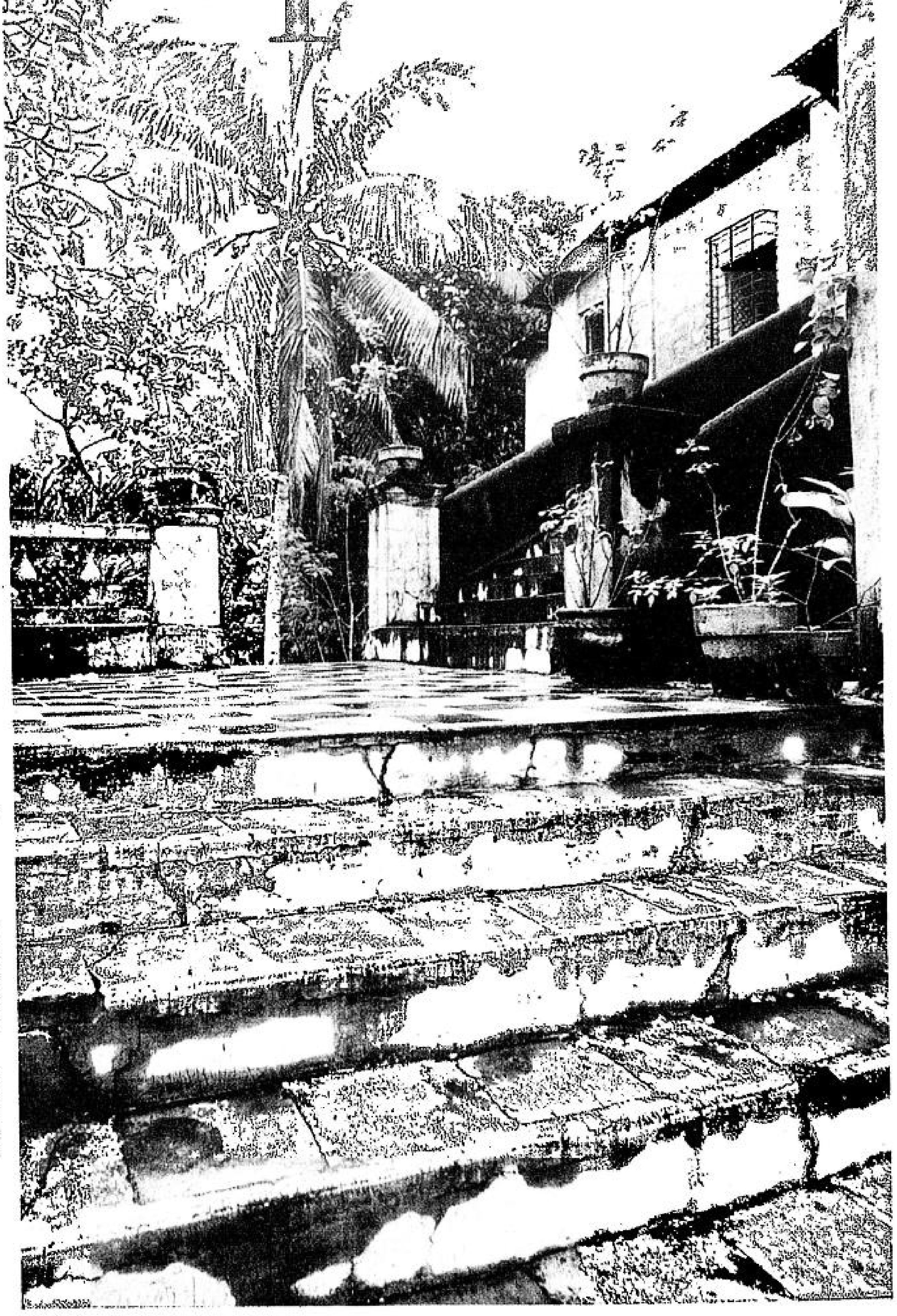
House of proud spirits

Like Lipa's very popular actress-mayor, the city's heritage structures are houses for all seasons

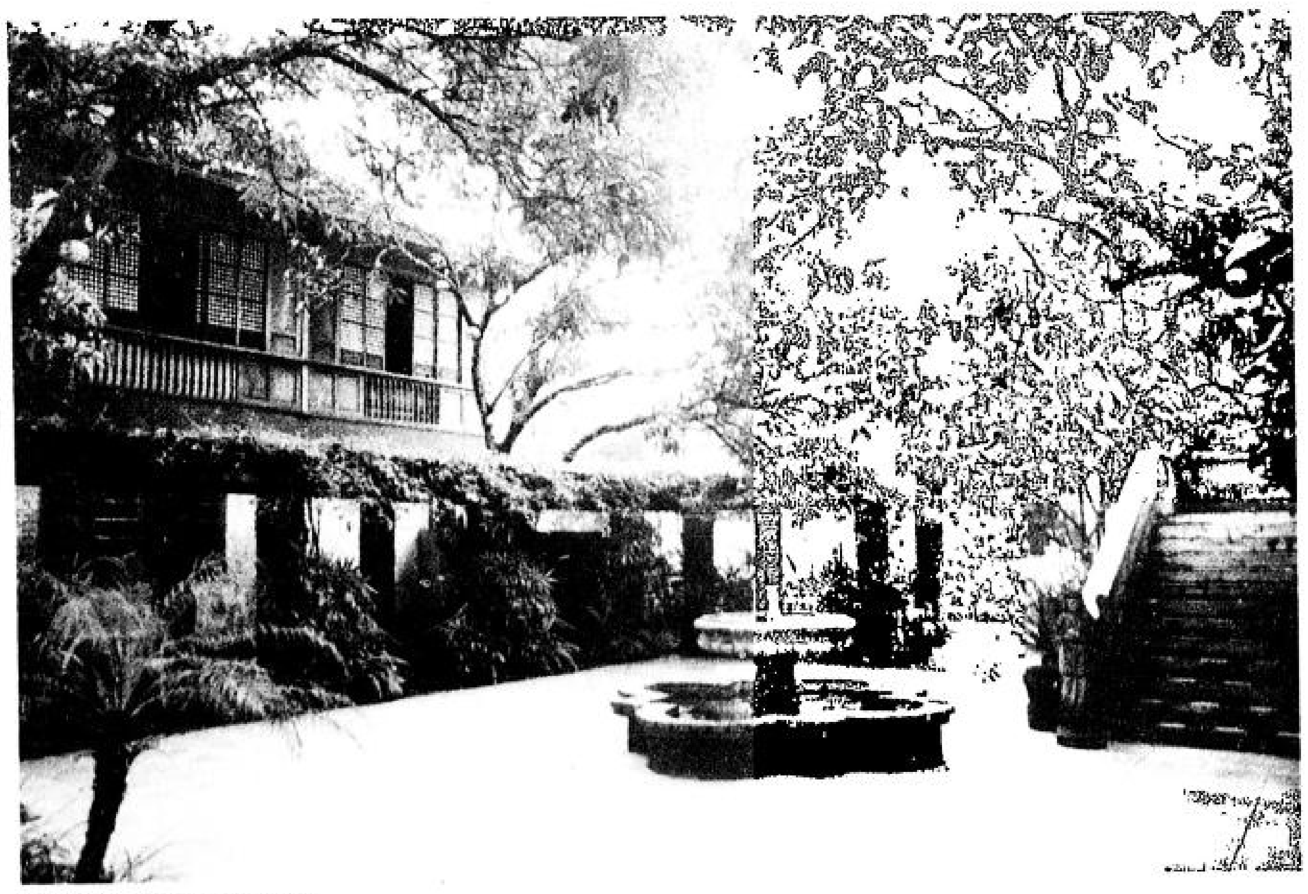
ARRANGED in the foyer and the wide drawing room are three sofa sets, wicker chairs, marble-topped side tables and a divan at *bahay na bato*.



THE LUZ-KATIGBAK heritage house

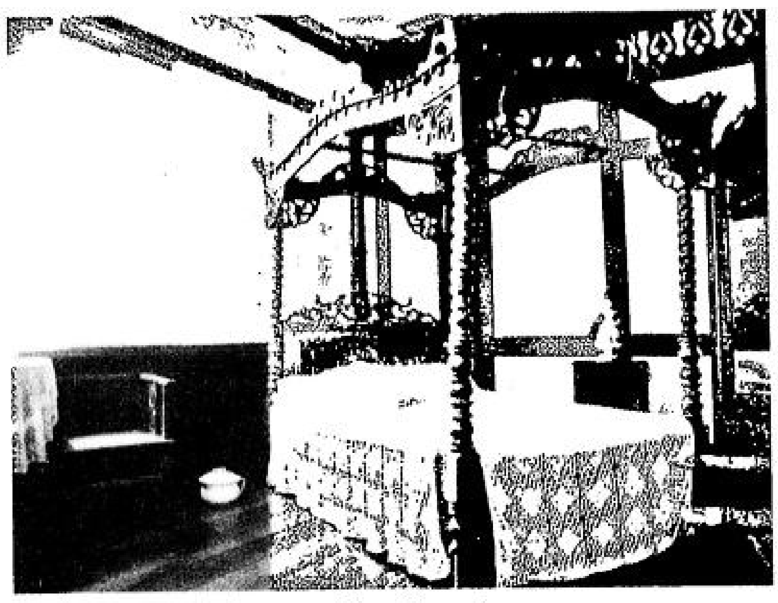


BRICK staircases leading to the side entrance of *bahay na bato*



CASA Segunda courtyard

CASA Segunda majestic staircase made of Philippine hardwood



THE MASTERS bedroom at Casa Segunda

THE OLD photos of the Katigbaks

THE WOODWORK at Casa Segunda had been hand-chiseled.

House of proud spirits

From page D6

fishpond, and an orchard of *lanzones, santol,* avocado, *caimito, langka,* mangoes, kapok, a century-old *alagaw*.

This is the Luz-Katigbak Heritage House, given a certificate by the National Historical Institute. It was partially destroyed during World War II, remodeled by the heirs in 1956, and restored in 1996. Though some of its parts have already been reinforced with concrete, most of it is still its original structure.

With a flooring of dark hardwood planks and decorative tiles, it was constructed with the typical parts of the *bahay na bato*, from the *azotea* to the *entrosuelo* to the *silong*, bodega, *ventanilla, pasemano, barandilla,* the foyer, the window shutters.

Richly gleaming in the rooms are the pieces of furniture: *dulang, butaka,* rocking chairs, glass and china cabinets, pillow racks, *bastonera, comoda,* and *escritorio*.

Also displayed are house accessories such as an antique flat iron, a brass cauldron, the *maquina de mano, sungka, tampipi, retablo, santos, caruaje, piedra china, gasera*. There is an abundance of statuary, oil paintings and murals, including those illustrating what is left of Lipa's heritage structures.

Curious artifact

The house was named after José Rizal's first love, Segunda Katigbak, sister of his friend Mariano. Segunda eventually married Manuel Luz, and the house was where they raised their children and grandchildren. (National Artist Arturo Luz is a great-grandson.)

A curious artifact in the salon is the marble chessboard where, during his visits to raise funds for La Liga Filipina, Rizal would play with Mariano and his erstwhile rival Manuel.

The rivalry was such that, even through Manuel's late years, according to his great-great-granddaughter Lilet Luz Dimayuga Malabanan, he would turn away his face from and refuse to touch the P1 bill with Rizal's face on it. But he could not really escape the man, for his house, in fact, was standing on Rizal Street.

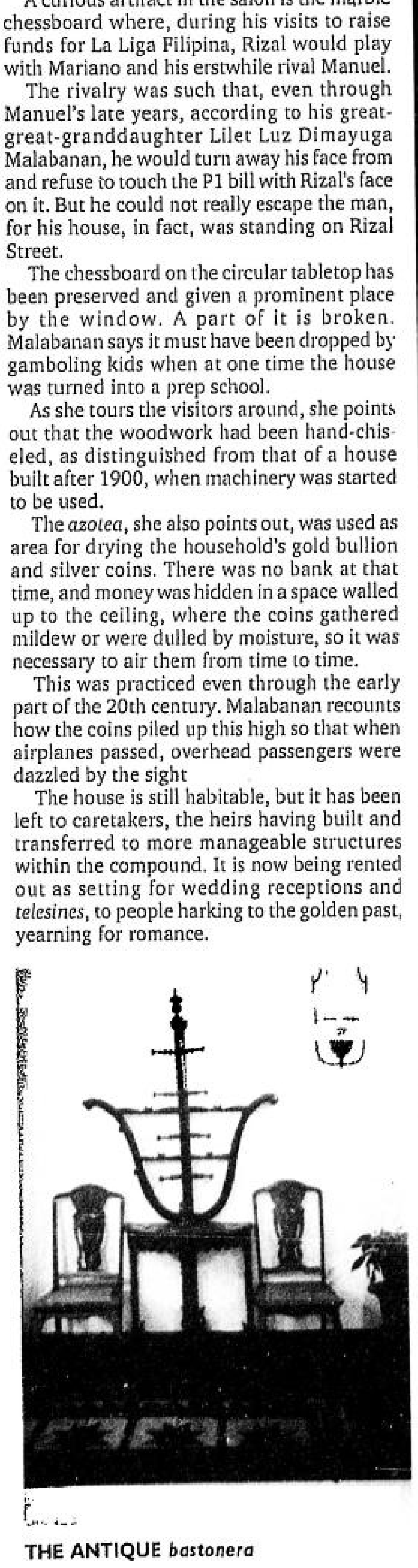
The chessboard on the circular tabletop has been preserved and given a prominent place by the window. A part of it is broken. Malabanan says it must have been dropped by gamboling kids when at one time the house was turned into a prep school.

As she tours the visitors around, she points out that the woodwork had been hand-chiseled, as distinguished from that of a house built after 1900, when machinery was started to be used.

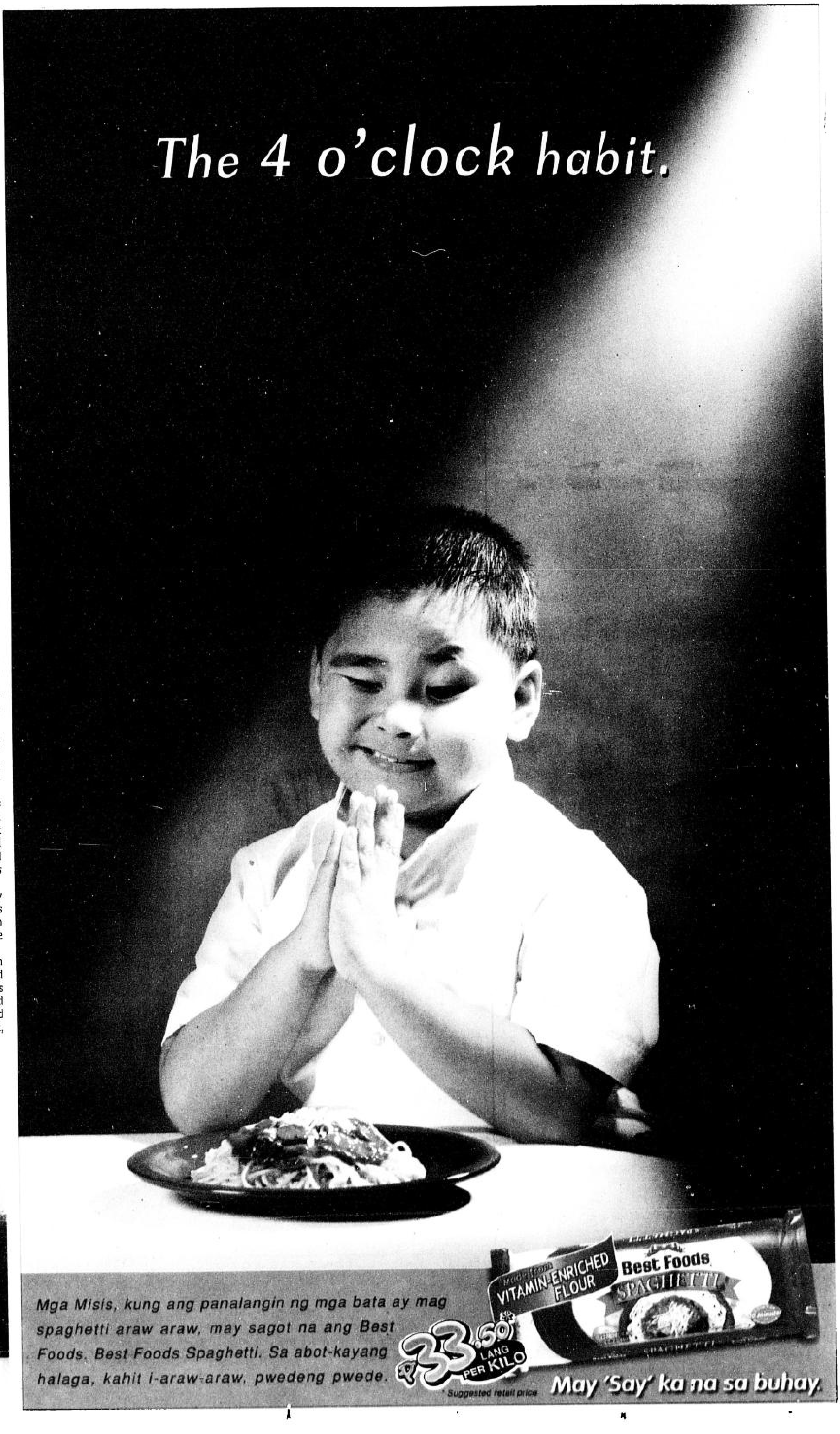
The *azotea*, she also points out, was used as area for drying the household's gold bullion and silver coins. There was no bank at that time, and money was hidden in a space walled up to the ceiling, where the coins gathered mildew or were dulled by moisture, so it was necessary to air them from time to time.

This was practiced even through the early part of the 20th century. Malabanan recounts how the coins piled up this high so that when airplanes passed, overhead passengers were dazzled by the sight

The house is still habitable, but it has been left to caretakers, the heirs having built and transferred to more manageable structures within the compound. It is now being rented out as setting for wedding receptions and *telesines*, to people harking to the golden past, yearning for romance.



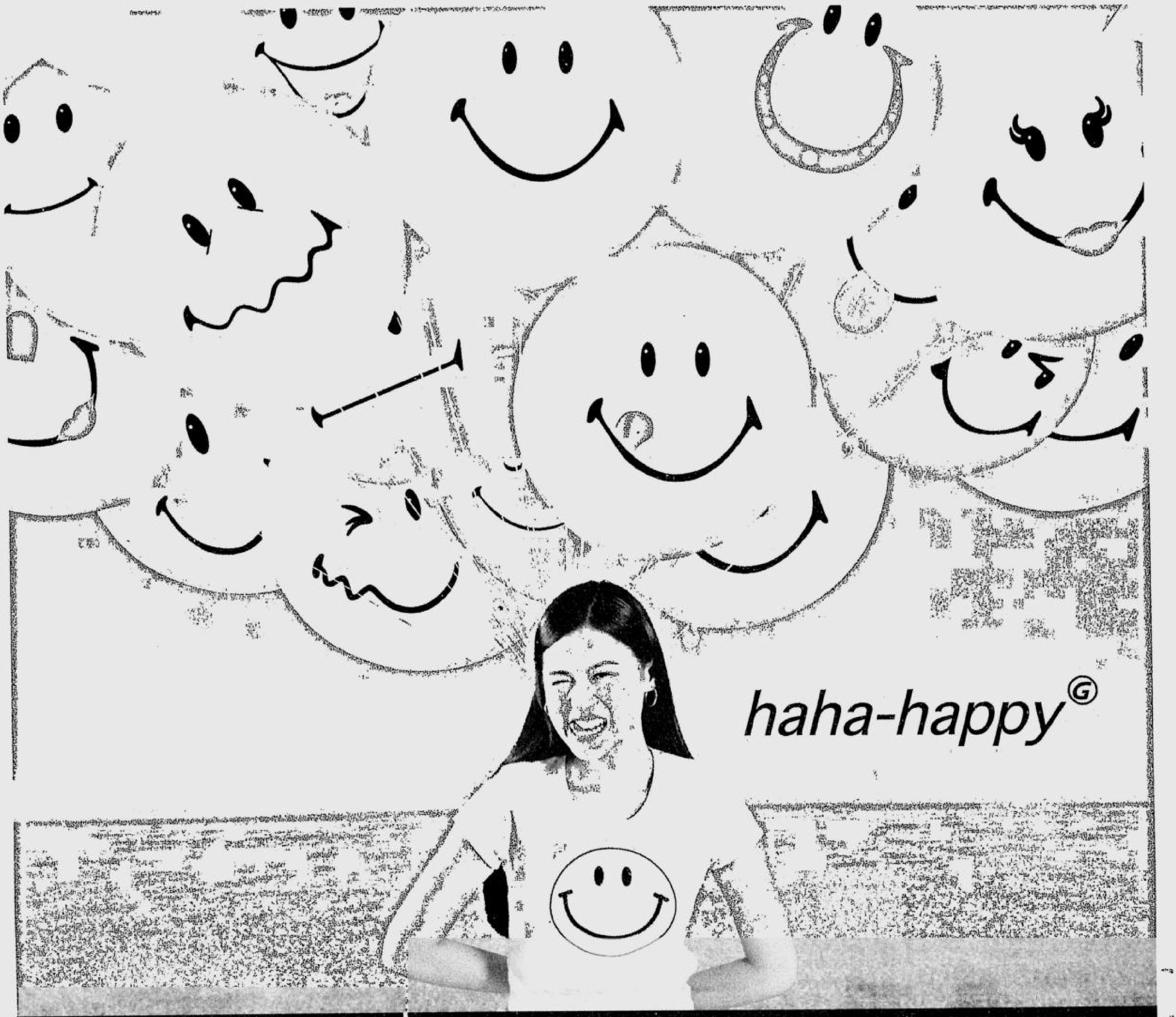
THE ANTIQUE *bastonera*



Mga Misis, kung ang panalangin ng mga bata ay mag spaghetti araw araw, may sagot na ang Best Foods. Best Foods Spaghetti. Sa abot-kayang halaga, kahit i-araw-araw, pwedeng pwede.

* Suggested retail price

May 'Say' ka na sa buhay.



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smiley31 smiley34 smiley38 smiley46

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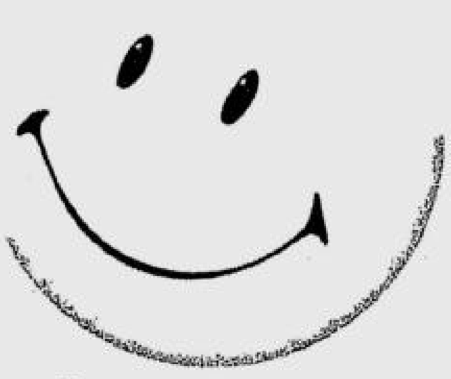
SONG TITLE	KEYWORD	ARTIST
GET YOUR FREAK ON	geturfre	MISSY MISDEMEANOR ELLIOT
MORE THAN A WOMAN	morethan	AALIYAH
PRAISE YOU	praiseyou	FATBOY SLIM
RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	righther	FATBOY SLIM
ROCKFELLA SKANK	rockfela	FATBOY SLIM
GANGSTER TRIPPING	gangster	FATBOY SLIM
THIS I PROMISE YOU	thisipro	NSYNC
BECAUSE I GET HIGH	igethigh	AFROMAN
WHAT CAN I DO	whatcani	THE CORRS
FULL MOON	fullmoon	BRANDY
ALL YOU WANTED	youwanted	MICHELLE BRANCH
HOW YOU REMIND ME	howyoure	NICKELBACK
BLURRY	blurry	PUDDLE OF MUD
SOAK UP THE SUN	soakup	SHERYL CROW
ONLY HOPE	onlyhope	MANDY MOORE
I NEED YOU	ineedyou	LEANNE RHYMES
A THOUSAND MILES	athousan	VANESSA CARLTON
ORDINARY DAY	ordinary	VANESSA CARLTON
SMOOTH CRIMINAL	smoothcr	MICHAEL JACKSON
DON'T LET ME GET ME	dontletm	PINK



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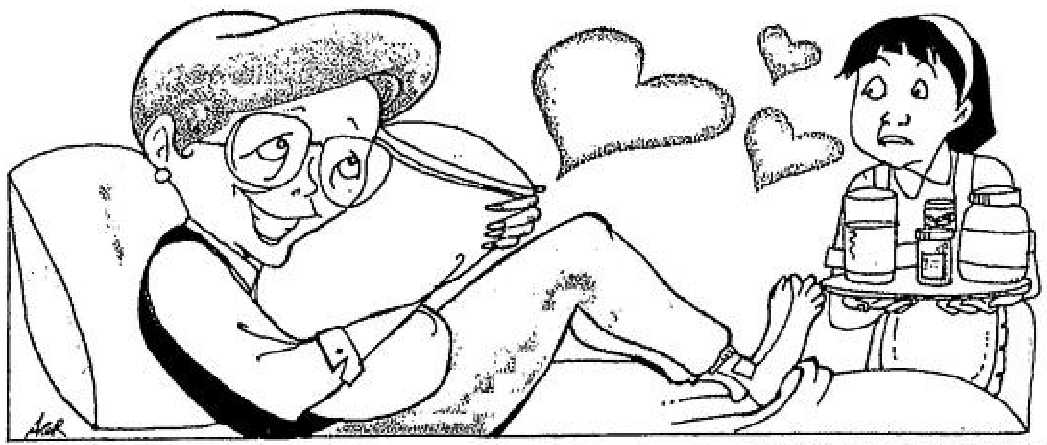


ILLUSTRATIONS: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

When you're in your 70s, is it possible to have an affair that's purely of the heart?

My romance

Note: While all the characters in this piece are real, the situation is purely fictitious.

By Gli Castelo Fortuna
Contributor

I'VE just come home from a monthly meeting of my senior gang (to be differentiated from my middle-age gang and my young gang) and, as usual, we had a great discussion. The serious topic on the table (aside from Angie's distracting aperitifs) was: What more would you want in your golden years aside from what you've already accomplished? (We were supposed to be a group of achieved women.)

Sony had developed their idle property in Laguna as a public playground with basketball court and stage, and was into more plans for it. Letty was continuing her foundation for nationalist studies. Sally's advocacy was the representation in court of deaf people who had been abused since they were unequipped to indict their abusers. Celi had donated her Capiz property to an old-age home and wanted to know what to do with another. Cheloy was putting together a retrospective show of 300 paintings. Sylvia had mock-seriously brought a checklist for senior women who wanted to make an error-free "departure plan." This included price and color preference for coffin, length of wake, flowers, music, dress to be worn, makeup.

When it was my turn, I hemmed, I hawed, I dug and dug and peeled and peeled the layers of my heart to find my true desire, and it was—to have a romance! So embarrassing! Everyone was into some lofty undertaking and here I was, 72, craving a lover! How irrelevant could a mission be?

Soul-to-soul

No, I wasn't unhappily married. I was a normal, happily wedded person, which means that most of my needs were gratified but some were not—could never be, in this lifetime.

I could not fault my husband; he had given me security and indulged all my whims. Dared I ask him for more passionate lovemaking? Was it too much to request from a good, if conservative, provider a deep, open-mouthed, soul-to-soul kiss every quarter? To undo his cloth just one little stitch so that he would cozy up to me when there was a typhoon outside or when I was having a nightmare?

Our frustrations were probably mutual; my hope as impossible as his hope—that I would someday be interested in housekeeping instead of writing and costly theater producing.

I had also asked astrologers and seers whether they could predict the year of my death, for I had this irreverent desire to blow whatever leftover savings I may have on a final slam-bang theater extravaganza. Live as if there were no tomorrow. Live as if I had no image to protect for my grandchildren. Be the me that I could never be when I was a corporate executive Caesar's wife, while my husband wined and fine-dined other women. Be the me that I could not be in the 60s when I was having too many babies to join my carousing flower children friends. How I envied their make-love-not-war philosophy, their rock concerts, the flowers in their hair, the pot they smoked, the free love they espoused. (Never mind if, when they grew up, all their marriages failed.)

Upfront

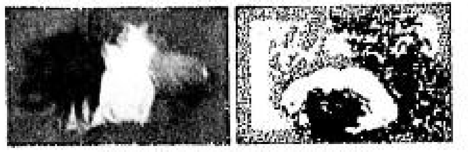
I dreamed of the lover I was going to meet. In seasons of loneliness he would climb over my windowsill in the mist, step gently over my chamber pot and we would make wild love on my flowered bed sheet. Give me someone not too old, I prayed, not too sick, not too married. Yet not too young to be downright silly or to be an insulting contrast to my infirmities.

And please, could the romance happen with just one little clause—could I be upfront about it to the husband whom I loved? Not having to lie. Not having to hide anything. For isn't a happy old marriage dependent on how free we have set each other? Just as I sincerely wished him to seize any transient joy (or foolishness), he may crave in his ripened condition, so I wished him to wish me. Or was this, too, as doomed as his own secret wish that, someday, I would finally water the hanging plants and watch the cooking shows on TV?

"It's in your stars," said my astrologer pal

MY/ p.E2

LONG-HAIRED GUINEA PIGS



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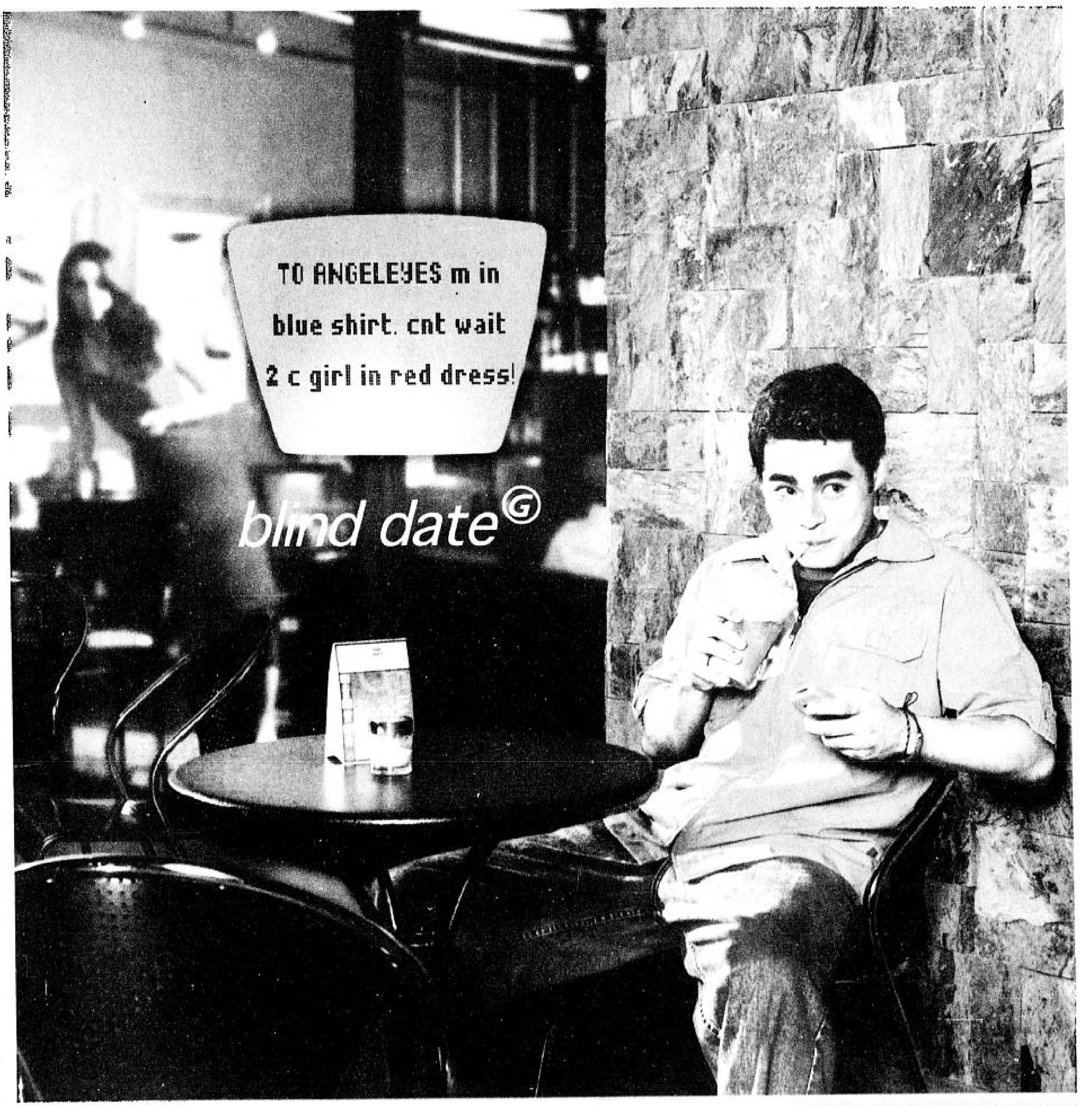

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My romance

From page E1

Georgie. "Venus, the planet of love, conjuncts Pluto in the Fourth House of your personal destiny. Which means that someone will come in the latter quadrant of your life and you will fall in love with a fascination that is mutual, devastating, beyond reason, transpersonal and galactic.

Encounters

And so, it was that in the season of my discontent, I met, at an environmental concern gathering, a nice-looking man, a few years older than myself, recovering from the death of a beloved grandchild who had drowned in the sea. Instantly there was lightning and thunder and chemistry.

As I found out later, he only had minor ailments—a touch of gout, a bit of an enlarged heart, but then so did I. But what if we later met in some dark corner of some dim pub and, horrors, we died in each other's arms? Antique love was infinitely more problematic than first love. For now, one had no desire to be ridiculous.

In a mall, some months back, I encountered an old flame who had broken my heart when I was 17. He was no longer the slim, tanned Adonis in the Blue Eagle basketball team but a white-haired public official with 18 grandchildren and a prostate ailment. We craved coffee together but our strict 1930s backgrounds didn't make that happen. Surely, when the stars were right, I would bump into him again in the mall.

He died the next day. I sorely regretted the missed opportunity that would have dislodged the uneasy pebble of a teenage disappointment. For a while I mourned my basketball hero. Then I asked for a new love.

Here he finally was, limping slightly, sad, but handsome as all get out. Dare I lose him again? Or maybe it was just too late. Would we be the laughing stock? Or was it sheer conceit to imagine that people would still care to gossip about us? Or maybe it was a sin, a sacrilege to even entertain the thought of a dalliance. If I didn't make up my mind, soon he might die or I might die (or my husband might shoot me). I was getting truly aged. How many people, like me, could boast of a dead first love? I belonged in a wheelchair. I needed an X-ray, a urine test, an electrocardiogram, a biopsy, a brain scan!

Like magic

Oh yes, there comes a time like this when one says, "I've done enough for my marriage." It's been a good one, so may I go out? May I just let it alone for a while to pursue some of the things I've missed? Like romancing. Like magic.

I consulted my best friend who belonged to the younger group. She had had a lover. Or two. Or three. "I want to have a new love," I said, "but I want it clean. I want to be frank about it to my husband but I do not want to hurt him. I will tell him: Dad, we only have a few years left on this earth. Could I maybe have a buddy of the opposite sex?"

Of course I would hurt him. Even with a past history of another woman in his life who had almost dislodged me, I know it would. But if I have done my job well as I think I have, he should be self-assured enough, mature enough to take it. If he had trusted me enough then to tell me about his own love affair, maybe it wouldn't have been such a messy issue. We would have expanded the horizons of our love. We would have grown together earlier as a couple.

But how do you explain another old man to an old man? It was unkind. "On second thought," I said to my friend, "I'm better off keeping it a secret."

"There are no secrets in the spiritual path," said my young adviser sanctimoniously over a pile of carrot cake. "You'll be destroying all that work you've done on your soul for years.

"If your partner has become truly mature, and not just old," she continued, "he will be somewhat aware of the emotional battery that he, normally, if unwittingly, dishes out to you. The scale is balanced. Give him some credit. But what I'm worried about really is, how do you think he will take the sex part?"

"Oh nononono!" I cried. "This is purely an affair of the heart. Nothing below the belt."

"How can you say that? Can you cut off your heart from your body when all the nerves in the body are wired to the heart?"

"You don't understand. At our age, bed has become moot and academic."

"Then what's the problem?" shrugged my friend, digging into a cup of yogurt. "It's technically a friendship. Any husband should be able to accept a friendship."

"Even when you're crazy about each other?"

"Senile dementia."

"Come to think of it," I demurred, "When is love personal and when is it agape? Because this seems more like agape. I feel for all people, I honestly love everyone in the world!"

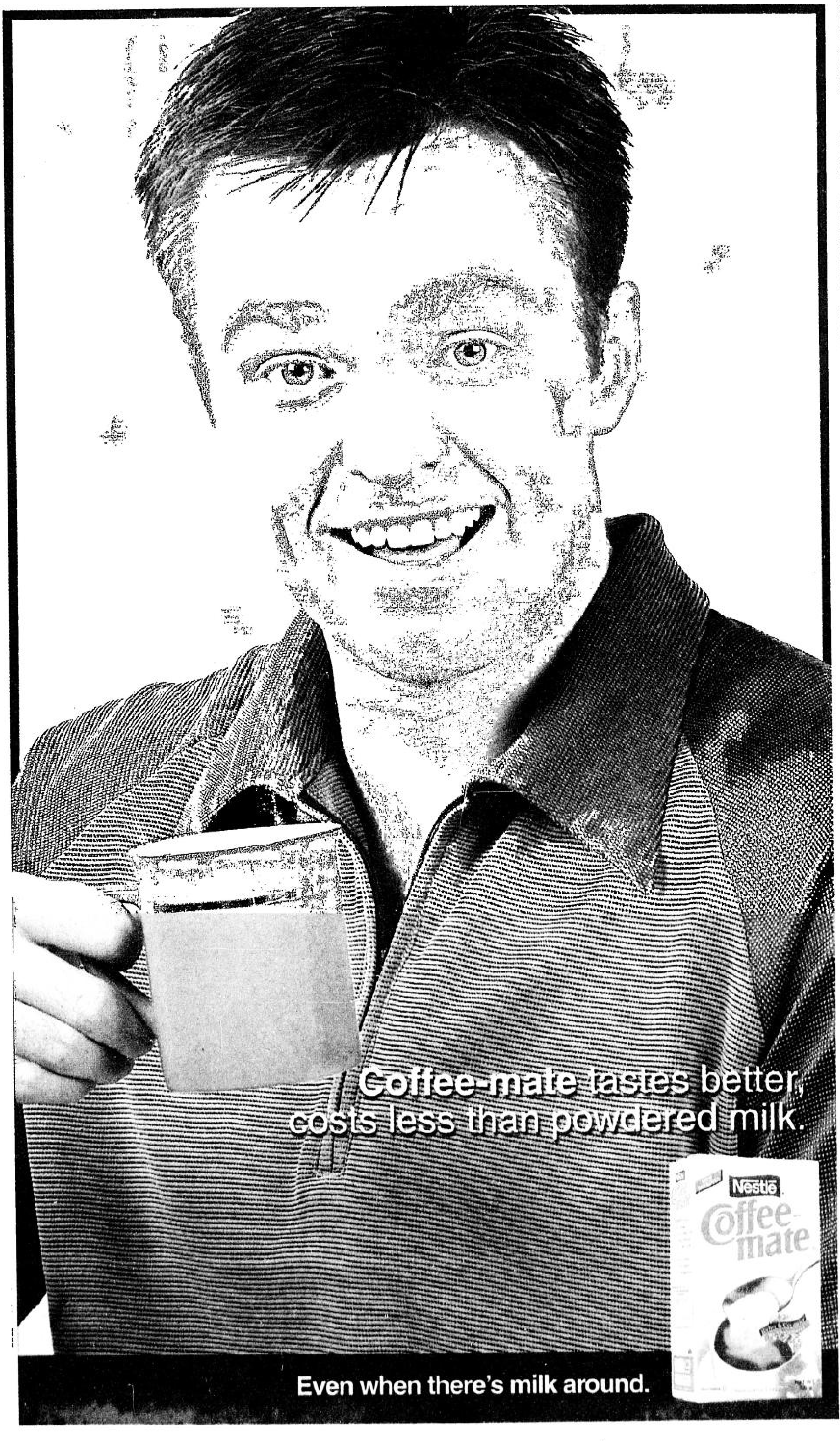
"If your love is universal, then you should really be loving everyone without exception. It's a spiritual exercise. That should put the matter to rest for all and sundry."

Anxious

It had been over a week. He would be anxious for my call. But I procrastinated. A fat date would disillusion him! First, I would increase my work on the stationary bike, the treadmill and the Timeworks. This on top of the aging person's daily routine for staying fit forever: five kinds of vitamins, four arthritis powders, hormone cream, one glass fresh *dalandan* juice, one *buko* juice, one cranberry juice, yogurt or soymilk for breakfast, slather face with olive oil; meditate half an hour. Body massage once a week. (Sigh). To that I had to add a smart new haircut, hair color, new lipstick, lip gloss. More and more to attend to!

As fate would have it, before the month was over, I dislocated an ankle. (Stupid accident.) Minor but disconcerting. How would newfound love take to a disabled date? I hugged my hotdog pillow and cried myself to sleep. The month was spent painting furiously. After 10 angry pictures and endless herbal teas later, the ankle healed perfectly. Just as I was feeling glamorous about myself again, a fax from Sylvia slipped in: "Beatitudes for the aged. Blessed are they who understand my faltering step and my palsied hand..." Yikes! Surely it was meant for someone else!

Now other parts of my body ached. I walked to the mirror. There were *salonpas* plasters on my neck and on both knees, like a wounded warhorse. But I didn't look so bad. Tremblingly, I picked up the phone and dialed. I thought I might faint very soon. There was lightning and thunder and lashing rain outside as the world waited at my feet.



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Paradise isn't spared from violence

From page E4

people very proudly told me that, after 20 years of struggle, they finally won autonomy and would have their own elections in September.

My plane arrived at night so I didn't see much until the next morning. If I thought Mauritius was a paradise, Rodrigues, a hilly island, was much more so. You see the sea from both sides of the highway. The island is breathtakingly beautiful and so unspoiled, unpolluted, uncongested. Some 80 percent of its 25,000 inhabitants are Catholics. Ethnically, they are mostly Creoles.

Well-known host

The organizer of my program is one of those strong, influential and committed women whom I meet in almost every city I visit. Her name is Antoinette and whose sister, Mary Paul, was also a graduate of the Institute of Women's Studies. Antoinette is so well known on the island that when the woman at the immigration desk asked me where I would be staying, I just said Antoinette and she knew at once who I was referring to. Antoinette heads a diocesan social action center called Carrefours (crossroad), which initiates many progressive and people-oriented activities on the island including the autonomy movement. The center has a women's association and the first event I attended was its celebration of Mother's Day.

I found the women very vocal, not hesitating to express their opinions. I was asked to give a short talk and I also gave a seminar on the "Woman Question." I shared the process undergone by St. Scholastica's College in its social orientation for school administrators. The women thought it was helpful to them in setting directions in the context of their coming autonomous status. To Church women including Sisters, I gave a session on "Woman and Religion."

One program of Carrefours that is worth emulating is the children's movement. It is based on the principle that children are not just the adults of tomorrow but are persons now and have to be respected as such. They are not just to be protected but should be allowed to participate in the building of society. In all villages, children meet every week with an adult promoter. They discuss what is happening to themselves, their families and society, and undertake projects of their own.

Antoinette says it is amazing how the children see things that adults don't see. In one instance, they called attention to the pollution of water in a village because a dead animal was thrown into the water source. Another time they produced a skit calling attention to the problem of incest.

When the president of Mauritius came to visit the island, 200 children met with him and gave him their assessment of the situation on the island. The children were given a special questionnaire on the subject of autonomy and had a representative in the Synod called by the Church.

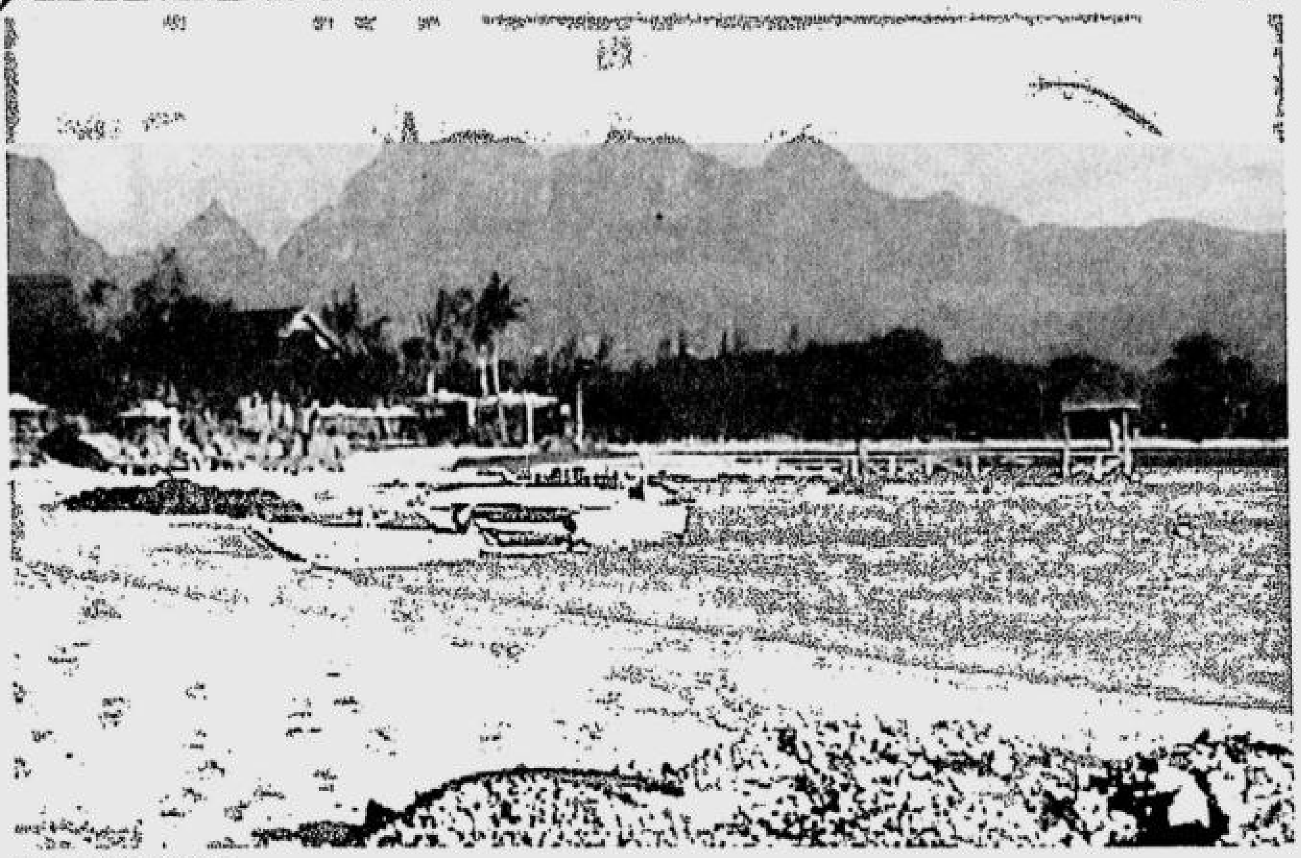
Snake in Eden

But even in an idyllic, Eden-like place as Rodrigues, violence against women rears its ugly head. On my second day, visiting the tomb of Marango, the slave master who developed Rodrigues, we met a police car. We found out later that a prisoner who robbed and killed a Chinese couple escaped. The next day, our driver told us that during the night, the escaped prisoner entered the house of a widow with three daughters and a small son. He handcuffed all of them except the oldest daughter, who was able to escape to the neighbor's house and call for help. But help came too late to save the 15-year-old second daughter from being kidnapped. The man raped her repeatedly and then was brought to his accomplice's house where he got something to eat. The girl was able to escape and go to a neighboring house for help. She was brought to the hospital.

We found out later that her mother was among those who attended our Mother's Day celebration, so Antoinette and I visited her. It was heartbreaking to see the insecurity of the family. The mother, a vegetable vendor despaired of being able to continue earning a living because she had to stay at home to watch her daughter. She could not sleep and felt helpless in protecting her family. The village association sent groups of people to be with the family every night. We passed by her house several times on our way to and from the lectures and seminars I gave.

The next day, 50 police officers came from Mauritius and 50 more were expected later. But the escaped convict had been at large for four days and the whole island, which had not experienced such a case before, was terrified. Women could not sleep at night and young girls did not want to walk to school or to work. It is unbelievable how one man can unsettle a whole populace, robbing the people of their sense of security.

Flying back to Mauritius, I feel as if I am leaving a family behind, because I have felt so at home with the gentle and loving islanders. From Mauritius, I proceed to Mumbai then Singapore on my way to my next stop: Jakarta.



VIEW of Mauritius

Ateneo graduate school accepting applicants

THE LOYOLA Schools of the Ateneo de Manila University is now accepting applications for the second semester of school year 2002-2003. Classes at the graduate school begin Nov. 11.

Deadline for application in the Education and Psychology departments is Sept. 20. For the other departments, deadline is Oct. 4.

Provincial applicants may take the entrance examination in the Jesuit school nearest them. Applicants have to arrange to take the test by Sept. 13.

Application forms are available at the Office of Graduate School Services, G/F Xavier Hall, Loyola Heights Campus, Katipunan Avenue, QC, or may be downloaded from the Ateneo website at www.ateneo.edu.ph. Call 426-5937/6001 local 5141/5142, or e-mail grad@admu.edu.ph.

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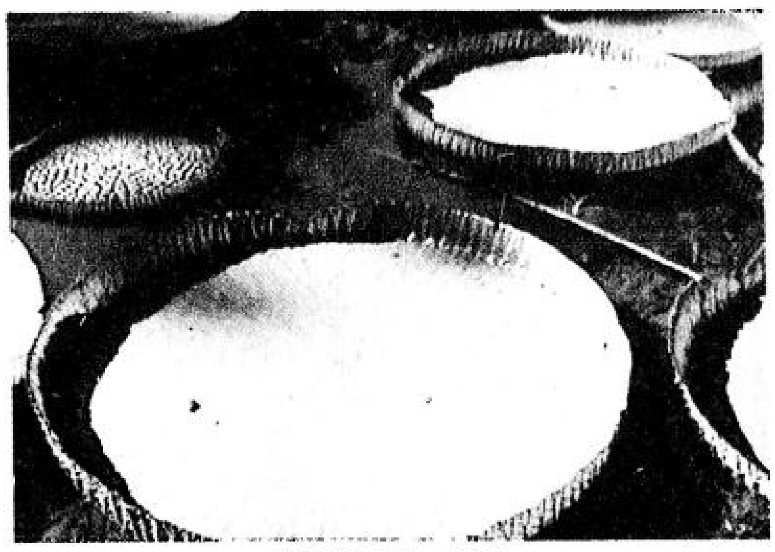
ON A WING AND A PRAYER

Paradise isn't spared from violence

It is unbelievable how one man can unsettle a whole populace, robbing the people of their sense of security



QUEEN Victoria lotus

By Sr. Mary John Manansan
Contributor

MAURITIUS is an island paradise. From the air, you get a marvelous view of a green valley ringed by hills.

The island is so small one can go around it in about five hours. And in just 10 or 20 minutes, an amazing change of scenery occurs: from a beach to a sugar plantation as far as the eye can see, then all at once a colonial square with the parliament—Queen Victoria's statue stands in front—and across from it a waterfront surpassing in elegance any Miami harbor.

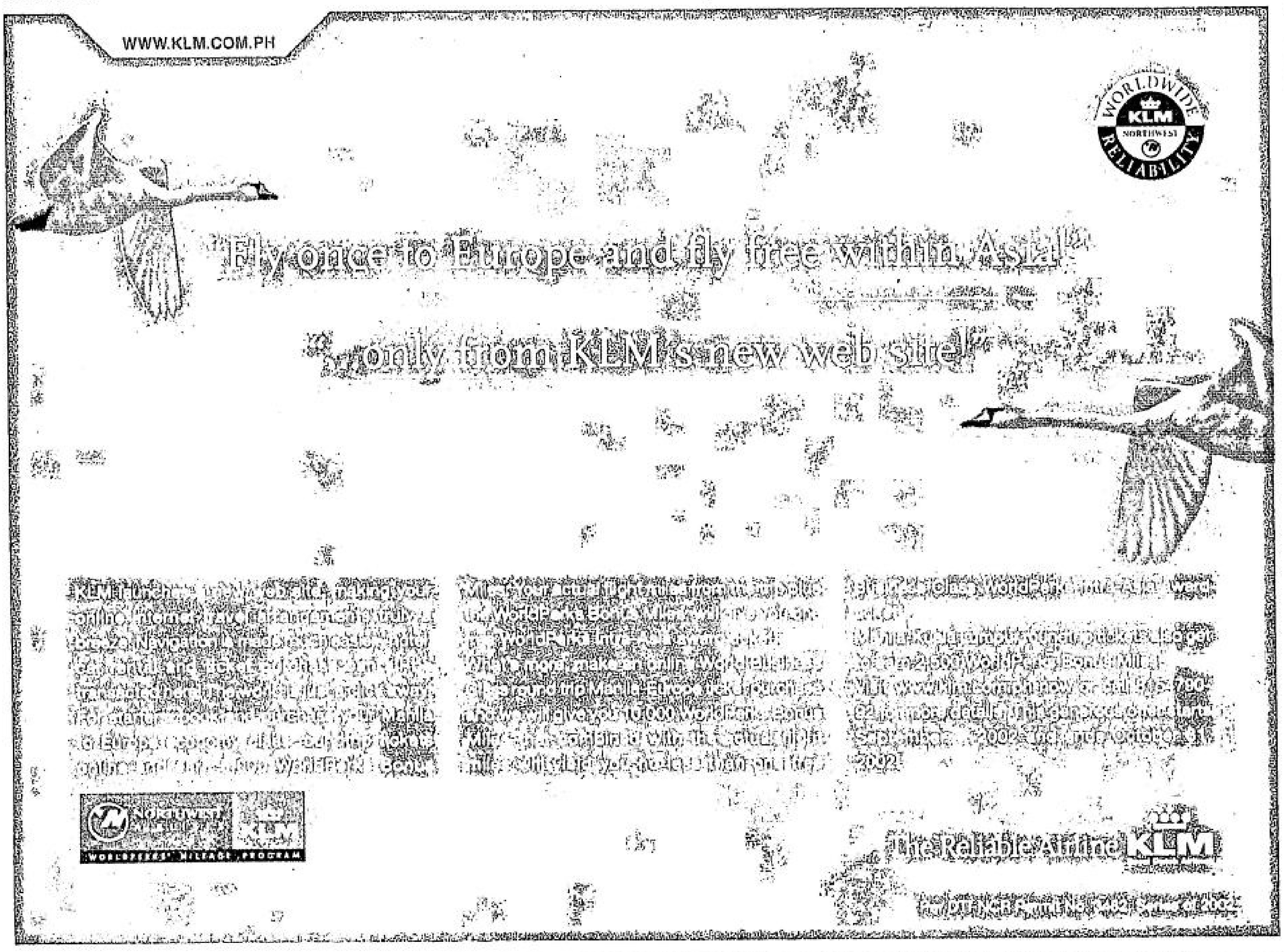
After another five minutes one passes the center of the town with its Indian shops. Three or four blocks away is Chinatown. And 30 minutes from downtown, one can drive to the mountains through forests and woodlands, like going from Divisoria to Baguio. Along the way is a garden called Pamplemouses, where lotus with leaves as big as a *batya* grows in a pond surrounded with palm trees that flower every hundred years.

There is no typical Mauritian. Some look like Indians, others like Africans, Chinese, or even Filipinos. But they are all born Mauritians and speak French or Creole.

I met with two graduates of St. Scholastica's Institute of Women Studies, Patricia Adele, a social worker, and Sister Benilde, a teacher and who belongs to the order called Daughters of Mary. I only stayed four days in Mauritius because I had to go to an even smaller island (104 sq km) called Rodrigues (pronounced *Rodrig*, silent *es*) where a program of meetings and lectures was arranged for me.

The island belongs to Mauritius but the

PARADISE/ p.E3



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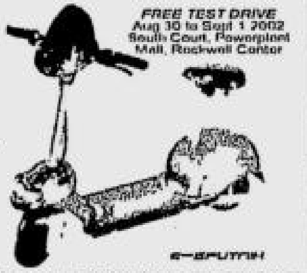

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FELIX-OROSA NUPTIAL

Monsoon fails to dampen wedding's festive mood

NEWLYWEDS Pete and Margo Felix (née) Orosa

Story on page F2

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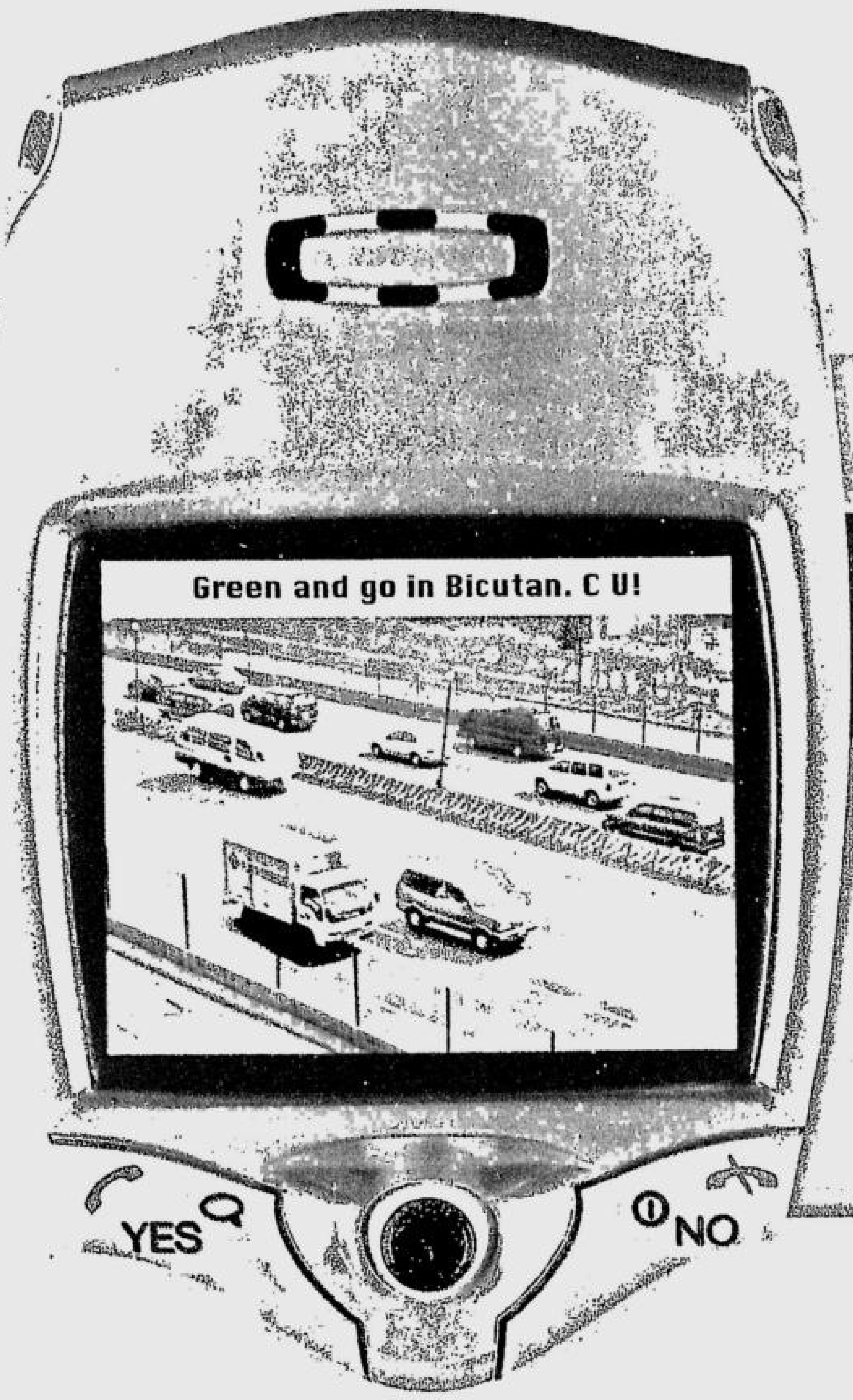

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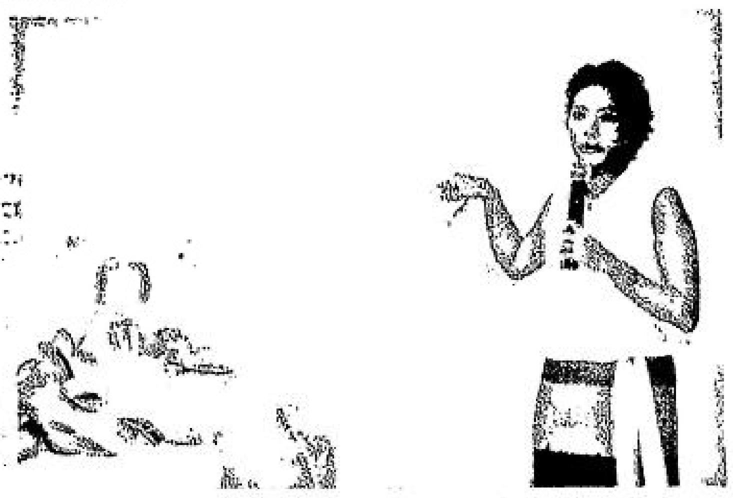
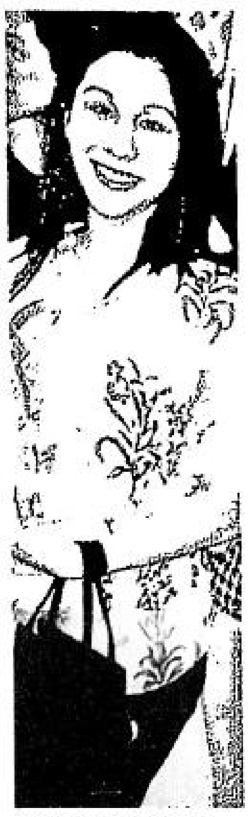


CRISTINA Velasco of Weddings by Victoria (with a showcase from Rustan's)

ZENAS Pineda of Rustan's Flower Shop

AMBASSADOR Tantoco, Carlo Tadiar and Thelma Sioson-San Juan



ANGELA Arroyo

RACHELE Aguila of H Salon with model, Jane Kingsu

Exclusive event launches wedding mag issue

ABS-CBN Publishing Inc., together with Rustan's, launched recently the second issue of Metro Weddings "I Do" Magazine in Aisle Style, an exclusive two-day wedding event. Elegant creations by favorite designers Patis Tesoro, Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Dennis Lustico and Rhett Eala were displayed throughout Rustan's during the event.

Metro Weddings "I Do" and Rustan's hosted talks on the secrets of the wedding trade and bridal preparations. Speakers were Cristina Velasco of Weddings by Victoria, Al Caronan, Zenas Pineda of Rustan's Flower Shop, Rachel Climent of Bride's Maids and Co., and Criselda Lontok. Special guest Daphne Oseña-Paez gave tips on how to be a successful bride.

Aisle Style, held at the 6/F of Rustan's Makati, also showcased unique wedding gift ideas and bridal registry services from Rustan's and groom and bridal "wellness" suggestions from Essenses. It also featured displays by Dove, Lux, Le Pavilion, City Garden, Block & White, Weigh Less, Baker's Kingdom, Kasal.com and Joey 92.3.

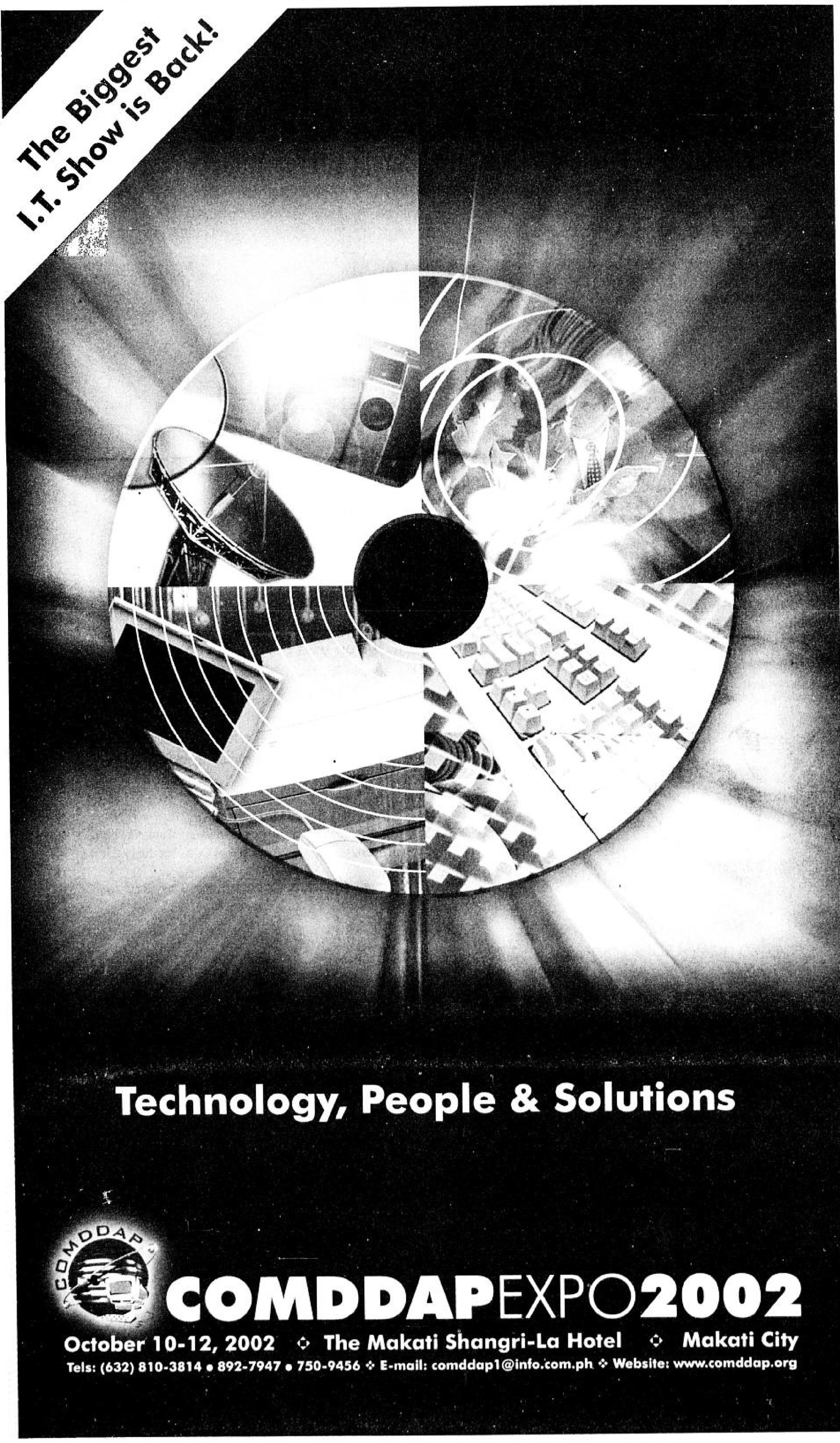
The event was capped by the unveiling of the magazine's new cover and an elegant fashion show by Rustan's featuring Natori, Private Moments, Jill, Dolce & Gabana, Oleg Cassini, Hanes and Jockey, under first-time fashion director Kenji Marquez.

Metro Weddings "I Do" is now available in all bookstores, bridal stores and newsstands.

FREDERICK Peralta and Pitoy Moreno

PATRICK and Ingrid Go

MIKE dela Rosa and Tonichi Nocum



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Turumba Festival in Pakil set on Sept. 15

RESIDENTS of Pakil, Laguna, will celebrate the grand Turumba festival on Sept. 15 in commemoration of the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary.

A distinctive feature of the festival is the Turumba dance and song people perform as they join the procession.

The procession ends at the church where the people scramble to get flowers used to decorate the Virgin's carriage.

The procession is held after a concelebrated Mass and reenactment of the miraculous finding of the image.

This year, booths featuring agricultural products, handicraft items, products from wood shavings and whittling will be built in the town plaza. There will also be an art exhibition featuring the works of artist Danilo Dalena.

Another featured activity in this year's festivities is the selection of the Mutya ng Pakil, as well as interpretative dancing of the turumba music by different groups and organizations.

The festival is a joint undertaking of the Pakil municipal government and the Parish Pastoral Council.

Having an affair with a married man

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I have a good job. I have many blessings to thank God for—loving parents, good health and somehow, everything goes on smoothly, even in avoiding traffic.

However, three months ago, I met a nice man during an office party. We continued seeing each other, and during one of our dinner dates, he revealed that he was separated from his wife who now lived with another man.

Even with that background, we are now "on." He says he is free now, since his wife is with another man. But his marriage has not been annulled yet. My friends sympathize and understand, but I know they disapprove. They don't say so, but I can see it from the way they talk.

Another problem is my parents' strong disapproval of him. However, my boyfriend just keeps quiet whenever he visits me. I have a cousin in the US who is married to a divorced man, and they are happy together, with two children.

My boyfriend swears he loves me, and vows to make our life together a happy one. He assures me he has no obligations now, not even to his parents who are also abroad. He has even rented an apartment, which he is slowly furnishing.

May I have your comments?

L.L.

Your mind is on the right track, but then, of course, it also listens to your heart. But first, focus on your mind. If you'll live with him in that apartment, there will be a rift with your parents. Your friends may not express their opinion, but they might even ostracize you.

There is also your office hours, and your moral standing with your officemates, as well as with your boss.

Even if your boyfriend has sworn he loves you, his legal ties are still there. Has he considered going to a lawyer to work on his annulment? If he has, then wait for the court's decision. If he has not even considered doing so, think of other possibilities that may come up, if you decide to live with him. If you become a mother, the child will have your family name.

Life is not an island. Your personal happiness and your future deserve consideration. You have friends and parents who are supportive of you. Joy and happiness come from them. Living with your boyfriend may open other hurts, embarrassments and other tests and trials.

You may not agree with me because the dictates of love are really overwhelming at times. Here is my final suggestion. Talk to a priest if you are a Catholic, or to your pastor if you are of another religion.

I'm sure you have been watching television and reading newspapers. You may have seen an example of what happens when a girl gives her heart to a married man.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

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WITH THE BRIDE'S grandparents Totoy and Cely Avellana, the bride's parents GG and Chiqui Francisco, and the groom's parents Vina and Lucky Felix

WITH PRINCIPAL sponsors Stella Syliangco, Tessie Santos, Rocio Baltao, Amelita Villarosa, Rica Garcia, Corinne Yabut, Freddie Xerez-Burgos, Ace Suzuki, Ricky Yabut, Maxy Abad, Joey Avellana and Phil Alfonso

Monsoon fails to dampen wedding's festive mood

FILIPINOS believe rain on a wedding day means blessings for the marrying pair. So tying the knot during a storm could only assure prosperity.

Pete Felix and Margo Orosa, who exchanged vows on a stormy Saturday in July at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, could only hope so. The couple was married in a simple, intimate ceremony that, according to officiating priest Fr. Blas Briones Jr., was a genuine outpouring of love.

Despite chilly monsoon rains, the church was filled with family members and friends. Principal sponsors were Rica Gonzalez-Garcia, Freddie Xerez-Burgos II, Tessie Santos, Ace Suzuki, Stella Syliangco, Phil Alfonso, the groom's grandmother Rocio Baltao, Ambassador Lani Bernardo (proxied by Joey Avellana), Corinne Yabut, Iñigo Zobel (proxied by Ricky Yabut), Girlie Villarosa and Bobby Aguirre (proxied by Maxy Abad).

Radiant in a gown by Vittorio Barba, Margo marched down an aisle filled with roses and candles escorted by her grandfather, Jose Avellana. The bride's grandmother, Araceli Avellana, parents GG and Chiqui Francisco, the evening's hosts, Lucky and Vina Felix, and guests looked on.

The dinner reception followed at Le Soufflé at The Fort where 1816 Flowers arranged hydrangeas, liliums and roses from Australia. The menu consisted of pan-fried foie gras, seared sea bass, and Black Angus. Dessert was a dark and white chocolate soufflé. During dinner, the Da Capo string quintet entertained the guests. The groom's brother and best man, Juan Miguel Felix, led the traditional toast. Ana Mari Villarosa and Ysabel Cuyugan were matron and maid of honor, respectively. Wedding planner was Rachel Climent of Brides Maids & Co.

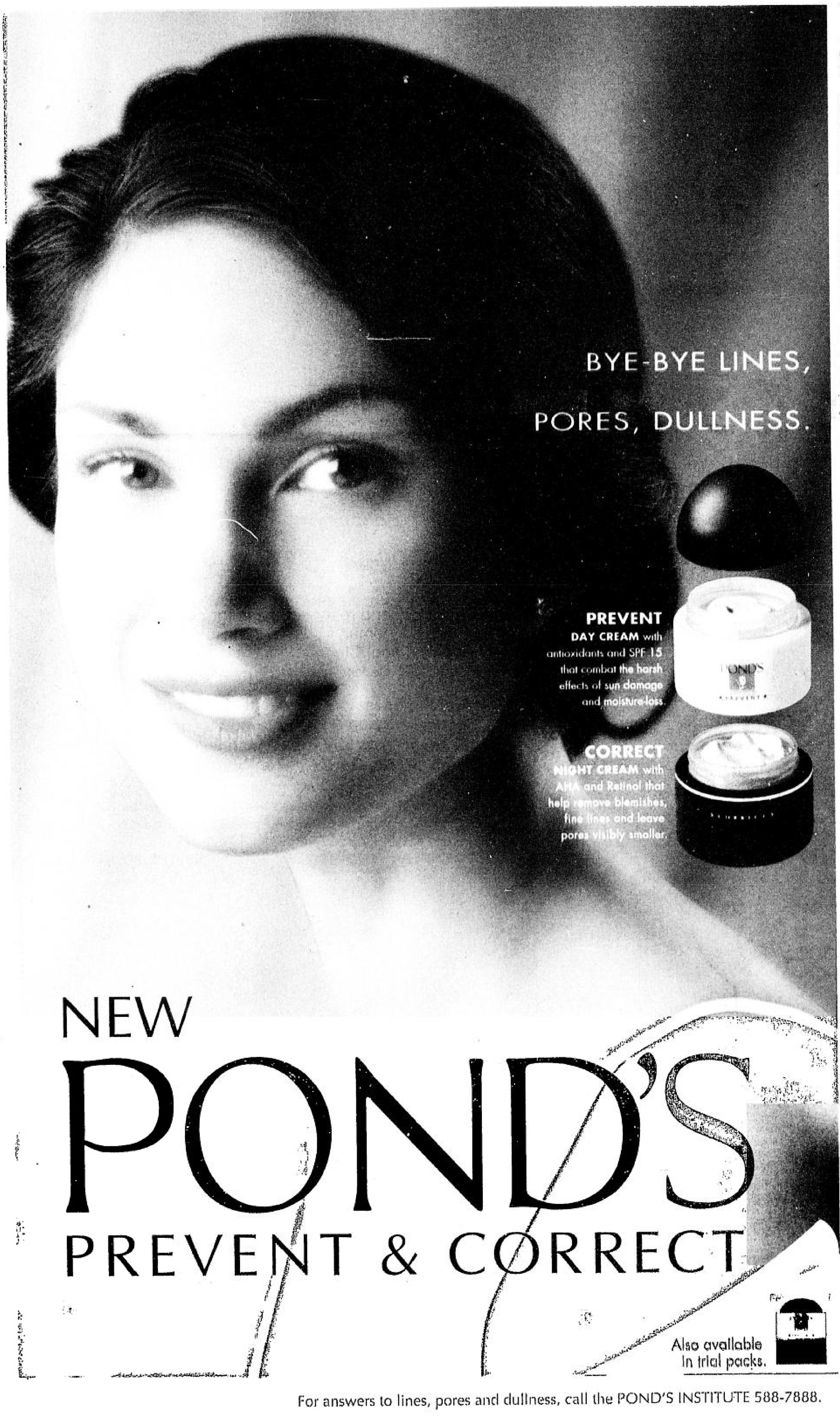
After dinner, the party moved to The Butcher Shop next door for an all-night disco dancing to the music of the Human Race band. Seen at the dance floor were groomsmen Raffy Florencio, Ping Alfonso, Anthony Villarosa, Tonio Veloso, Vince Bitong and Jose Constantino, and bridesmaids Ana Lloren, Aileen Sevilla, Marge Marasigan, Janine Santos, Angela Padilla and Mariel Avellana.

Even the groom's 12-year-old brother and junior groomsman, Paolo Felix, and the bride's 10-year-old sister and junior bridesmaid, Bea Francisco, partied with the rest.

WITH THE GROOM'S friends Ariel Arriola, Rino Gomez, Ping Alfonso, Polly Avecilla and dad Lucky Felix

THE BRIDE with friends Mish Hermogenes, Ana Lloren, Marge Marasigan, Aileen Sevilla and Ysabel Cuyugan

FLOWER girls Christina Felix, Bea Francisco, Mala Tangco and Andie Villarosa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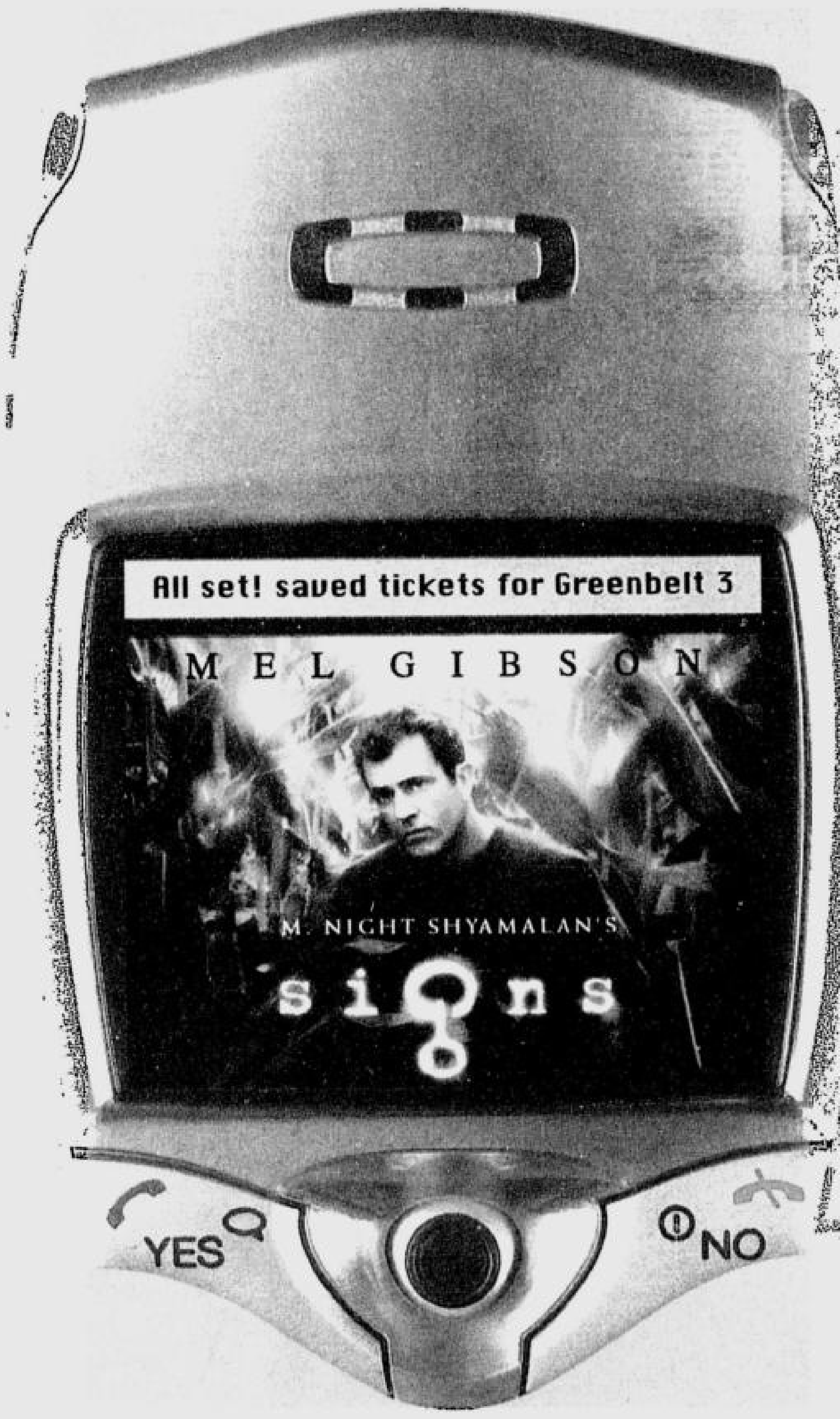
PETE and Margo with their entourage

THE GROOM'S friends

cinematic



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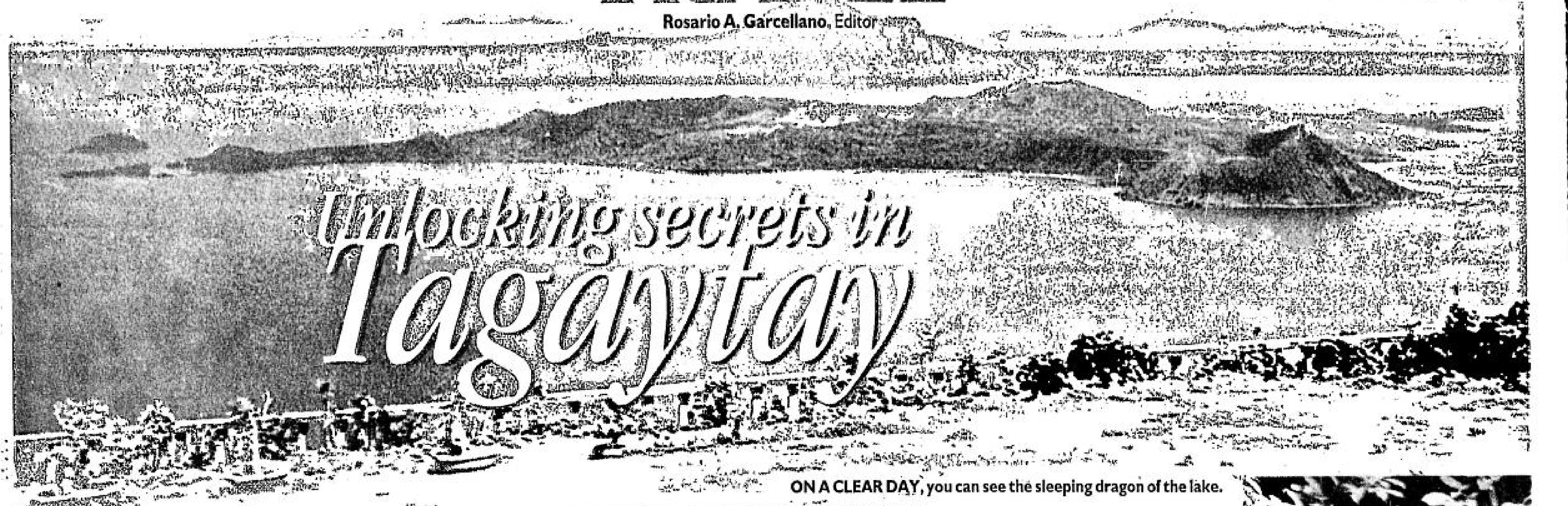
TRAVEL

Rosario A. Garcellano, Editor



Unlocking secrets in Tagaytay

ON A CLEAR DAY, you can see the sleeping dragon of the lake.

Text and photos by Lynett A. Villariba

IN A BUSY world where silence is a rare commodity, Tagaytay affords the stressed professional a quick getaway into a moment of peace.

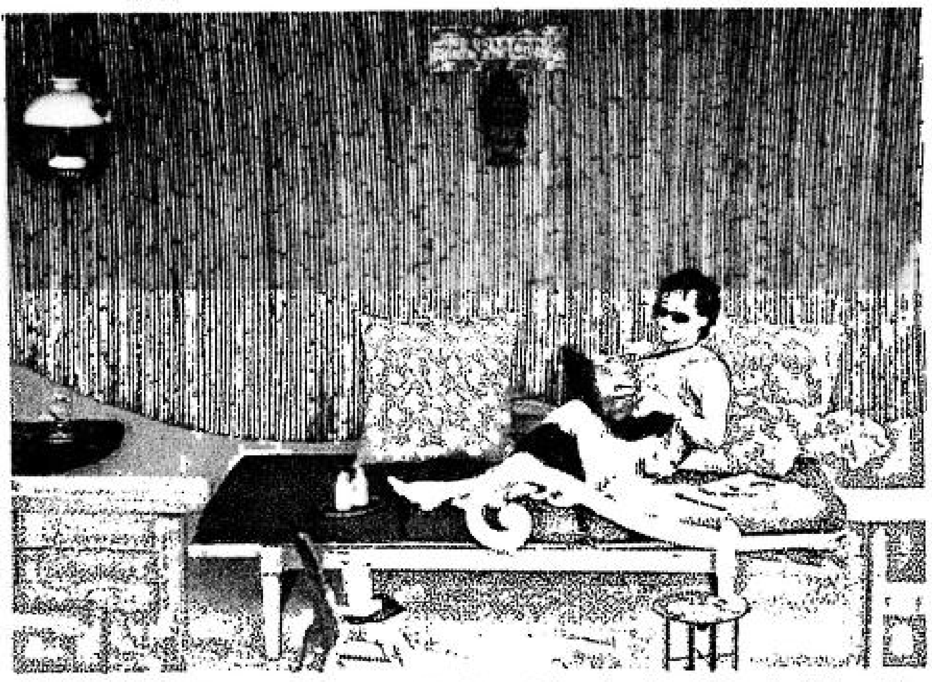
A last glimpse of the Makati skyline from the skyway offers a stark reminder of the glass-and-steel jungle you are fleeing. Via Santa Rosa, the ride progresses into a green landscape and a cooling breeze, until you reach the ridge that opens up into a vast expanse where the world's smallest volcano lies within a crater lake.

GOOD food and company

You may have seen it many times before, yet it still elicits a unique kind of awe as the fickle weather lifts the shroud of mist to reveal the majestic sleeping dragon of the lake. On a clear day, it is imperative that you stop at Dencio's vantage point to savor the panorama a little bit longer than you would the aroma of Batangas coffee.

As the body gets primed for ultimate relaxation, a drive farther down the other side of the ridge yields a tropical retreat on a rolling hill—truly a cool setting in which to awaken the sleeping dragon within.

In serendipity, you are drawn to just what the body is seeking: a garden *cum* spa to let you reconnect with nature in solitude or in bonding. Called (but naturally) Nurture, the spa lets you choose the mood for mind-and-body bliss in five ways: tranquility, harmony, joy, wisdom and love.



FROM THE BODY to the quantum world of the mind to the virtual domain of the spirit

INSIDE the Ifugao hut: a cozy setting for nurturing relationships

The body revels in a cleansing ritual starting from the toes (soaked in a foot spa) to the head (underneath a facial mask), not in an enclosed room but out there where you can feel the clean air and hear birds chirping in abandon.

There is nourishment for the body with good food, and for the mind—if your genial host is around—Cathy's company. If you ask, she'll fill you in on how to make the most of your stay at Nurture, which is not a stop but a place to linger and nurture relationships.

Sitting in a tranquil nook while rapt in aromatherapy, we travel from a predictable physical reality to the fluid quantum world of information, to reach the infinitely dynamic, unbounded virtual domain of the spirit for a glimpse of our potentiality.

Rejuvenated, we return to wakefulness—and become aware of a winged creature that settles within whispering distance. It tells us the secrets of plants we must explore in a nature walk.

But there is a key to unlocking secrets: They are released only to friends.

If we want to learn the secrets of plants, or of life itself, we have to start being a friend to the body, our nearest relation. We cannot demand the truth from enemies. Thus, we begin our travel within. Only then will the journey progress outward.

Secret garden

We take a trip outside the spa farther south to Sonia's Garden in pursuit of wisdom from the plants.

Along the narrow pathways, the flowers smile at you and ask for nothing in return. Verdant plants exhale oxygen for you to inhale. Flowers in bloom provide fragrance to an odorless, if not foul-smelling, world.

And this is what the garden says of our search for the meaning of life: Meaning is like the fragrance in a flower. You cannot catch hold of it in your hands but you know it is there. The flower exists, is alive because of its fragrance. An artificial flower may look like a flower, feel like it, and manage to be as scented. Yet we just know something is missing. There is no meaning in an artificial flower.

There is something in Tagaytay that makes the gardens throb with life. It must be the unpolluted, dust-free air in the highland far above sea level and a rich earth nourished by the breath of a sleeping dragon down the ridge.

On the way back to your nest, you snack on breads and pies fresh out of wood-fired ovens at a small café along the highway called Bag of Beans.

Rejuvenated bodies retire into a cocoon shaped like an Ifugao dwelling, from the axe-cut wooden planks down to the tree-branch door handles. The hut is a conversational piece on indigenous architecture.

HEADING home with his harvest

A mini Ifugao village in Tagaytay began to materialize when Nurture Spa's Cathy and Anna encountered an Ifugao handicraft supplier of their specialty store. Intuitively, they knew that they had to have authentic Ifugao huts in Banaue knocked down and transported to Tagaytay.

Except for the roof, the nail-less wooden huts were rebuilt by the Ifugao dwellers themselves who, when they were done, capped their activity with a *cañao*.

Path [illegible] traveled

Upon awakening to a bright new day you take a nature walk on the footpath less traveled, hidden under thick foliage. You cross a small ravine on a single log, mustering all that yoga has vested in you to conquer fear. Doing the catwalk, making it to the other side, is exhilarating enough to pump-prime you for more surprises.

EYE to eye with a pineapple

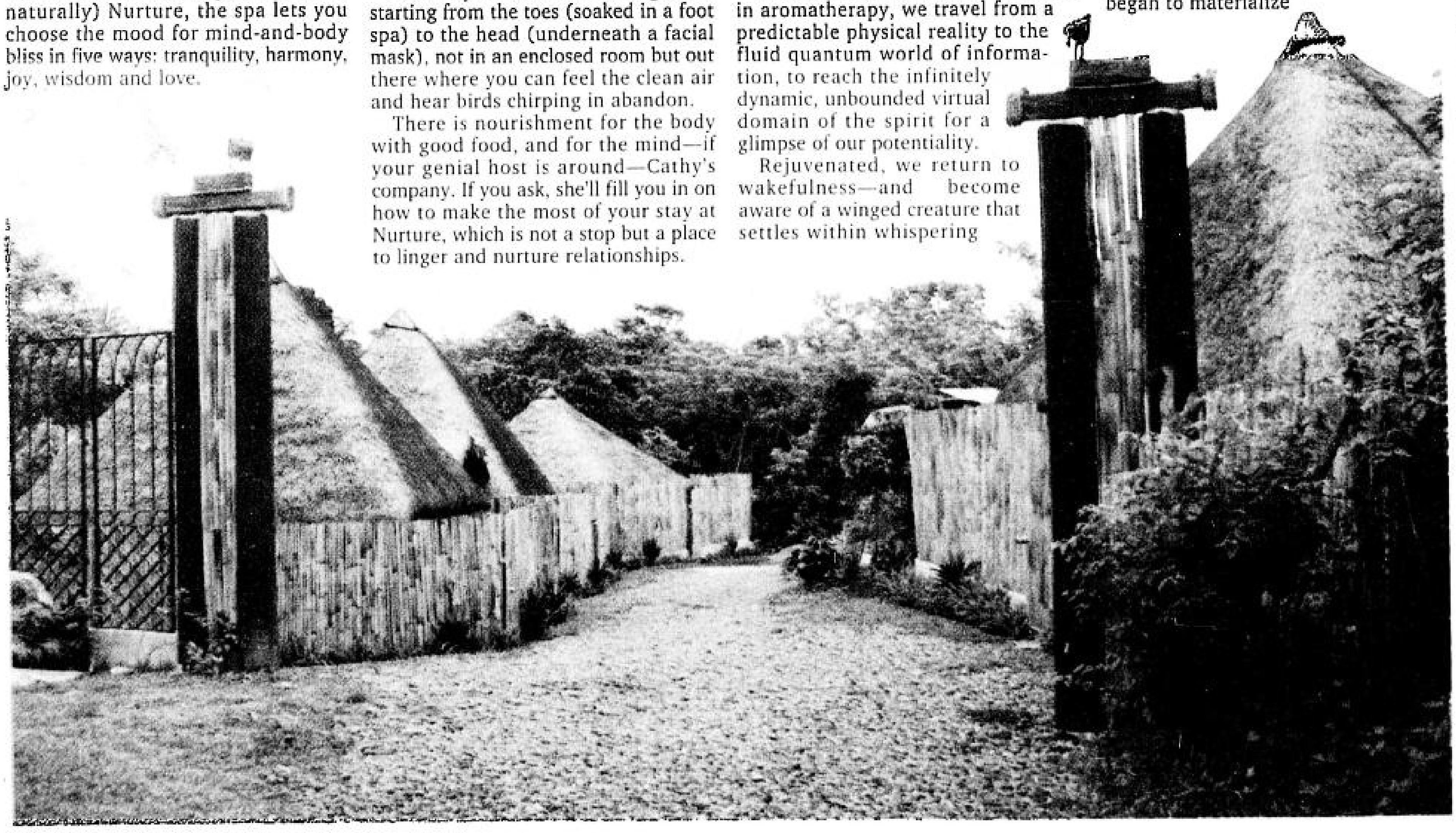
You weave your way up and down grassy slopes until you reach rows of purple pineapple plants looking like a rocker's hairdo and being tended by planters.

Farmer Bert greets you warmly and invites you to take a closer look at the secret of pineapples.

Do you know why pineapples have eyes? So the fruits can catch the rainwater. But do you know that pineapples belong to the cactus family? The spiked leaves catch the dew in the morning and funnel it down to the roots to sustain them on rainless days.

The live National Geographic experience ends with a twist of pineapple picking. Following our guide's lead, we set out to retrace our paths home carrying our harvest.

Call Nurture Spa's Makati office at 810-2024 for inquiries or reservations. To get there from the Aguinaldo Highway, enter the road beside Recuerdo's and Santi's deli and proceed until you reach a crossroad. Follow the sign that leads to health. (The road straight leads to the cemetery.)



IFUGAO village in Tagaytay setting

TRAVEL BRIEFS

New hotel

SOON to open in Alabang is The Bellevue Manila, a hotel that promises international standards of service and modern facilities.

Leading the management staff is general manager Jesse J. Chevrez, who started his 30 years in the industry at the Shangri-La Hotel (Singapore). He also served as general manager of the Marriott Courtyard Surfers Paradise, Hotel Sedona Bintan Lagoon, Malacca Renaissance Hotel and Sandakan Renaissance Hotel.

The other officers of Bellevue are executive chef William Tay, formerly with Raffles Town Club in Singapore; Myra Miranda, sales director; Luther Lapuz, food and beverage manager; Joy Maniego, human resource manager; Rudy dela Peña, front office manager; Raniel Vicarez, executive housekeeper; Noel Lacsina, chief engineer; and Patrick Chan, executive management trainee.

Pilgrimage tours

CAUSEWAY Tours announces two pilgrimage tour packages for September and October–one to Bicol's Our Lady of Peñafrancia, and the other to Cagayan's Our Lady of Piat.

The Sept. 20-22 "Peñafrancia Package" will be highlighted by Our Lady's feastday in Naga City. Side trips to the centuries-old churches of Naga and Buhi and the world-famous Mayon Volcano are included.

The "Piat Package" on Oct. 11-13 centers on Our Lady's shrine and features visits to Cagayan Valley's attractions: Calvary Hill in Iguig, Callao Caves in Peñablanca, and the ancient brick-walled churches of Tumauini and San Pablo in Isabela, and the magnificent Cathedral of St. Peter in Tuguegarao City.

For inquiries, call 851-7294, 853-8728 or (0916) 396-3963.

Autumn tours

ADAMS Express Travel, specialist in pilgrimage tours and trips to Europe, has drawn up a schedule making full use of autumn weather.

Among the choices for Europe is the Floriade, the horticultural event held once every 10 years. It can be combined with Russia or Eastern Europe, a Marian pilgrimage, or with Netherlands, Belgium and France. Fr. Bel San Luis is the pilgrimage chaplain. Departure is on Sept. 15.

A Marian pilgrimage group leaves for Lourdes, Fatima, Rome, Paris, Madrid and popular miracle sites on Sept. 25.

For inquiries, visit Adams at 1131 Mabini in Ermita, Manila, or call 521-1651, 521-1698 or 522-3876.

Fireworks display

THE WORLD'S best pyrotechnics are set to go off at the 14th Macau International Fireworks Display Contest, scheduled on all four Saturdays of this month in time for Macau's Mid-Autumn Festival and the celebration of the Oct. 1 National Day of the People's Republic of China.

The 10 participating teams are from Australia, China, Japan South Korea, Switzerland, Portugal, Thailand, Taiwan, United Kingdom and the Philippines.

"Explore Macau Holidays" packages are available starting at $306, inclusive of airfare, hotel accommodation, meals, tours and transfers to the venue of the fireworks festival. Call the Macau Government Tourist Office at 830-2005 or 830-2013, or e-mail mgtophil@info.com.ph.

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Milestones

We accept announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send in the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and related brief information. Readers may send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least one month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

RAMOS DEBUT

MOD cover girl, writer and model **Patricia Leticia de la Rea Ramos**, daughter of Drs. **Montano** and **Caridad Ramos**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Sept. 7 at Maynila Restaurant of The Manila Hotel. Patricia, now on her second year taking up BS Biology, is a consistent outstanding student at the Ateneo de Manila University. The debutante will wear a chartreuse strapless gown in iridescent taffeta material embellished with caviar and glass beads, and accentuated with a ruffle shawl, designed and executed by couturier **Eddie Baddeo**. Her hair and makeup will be done by **Eric Maningat**.

BARRANCO DEBUT

Grace Abigaille Barranco, daughter of Drs. **Fred** and **Ruby Barranco**, will have her debut on Sept. 7 at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel.

Her gown was designed by her cousin, **Jeffrey Gonzales**. Participating in the *cotillon de honor* are her classmates in St. Theresa's College and UP Manila.

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RUSS Beanbag Bunny P185 each
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2616, Series of 2002

ALCANTARA-EBRADA

Santiago R. Alcantara, son of **Juan A.** and **Pacita R. Alcantara** of Panganiban, Catanduanes, will wed **Alma B. Ebrada**, daughter of **Pastor G.** and **Maura B. Ebrada** of Rapu-Rapu, Albay, on Sept. 28 at the Imus Cathedral, Imus, Cavite. Reception will be held at the Imus Pilot Elementary School PTA Building, Imus Boulevard (Nueño), Imus, Cavite.

She will wear an ecru gown with an off-shoulder corded lace accented by scattered delicate beads and crystals, corseted top and bias skirt with cathedral length train in duchess satin designed by **Paul Rex Mateo.**

SONG-DUPRA

Yen-Lin Song, son of **Mu-Huo** and **Chiu-Lien Song** of Hsi-Chih City, Taipei, Taiwan, married **Jocelyn Dupra**, daughter of **Reynaldo** and **Lualhati Dupra** of Zaragoza, Nueva Ecija, at the Philippine Independent Church last Aug. 2. Reception followed at La Parilla Hotel in Cabanatuan City.

CHICO-SORIANO

Norbert Chico, son of **Pacifico Jr.** and **Zenaida Chico** of San Juan, Metro Manila, will marry **Maricar Soriano**, daughter of **Maximo** and **Normalita Soriano** of Antipolo City, on Sept. 8 at the St. Pancratius Chapel. Reception will follow at the Manila Midtown Hotel. The bride's gown is designed by **Edwin Uy**.

ALEGADO-UY

Maria Regina Carpio Uy, only daughter of Mr. and Ms **Roberto T. Uy** of Bel-Air, Makati City, will wed **Arnold Romines Alegado**, son of Mr. and Ms **Severino C. Alegado** of Ramon, Isabela, in ceremonies to be held at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Parish, Guadalupe, Makati City, on Sept. 14.

The bride will wear a periwinkle gown in chiffon by **Paul Rex Mateo**, embellished with Swarovski crystals, pearls and beads. She will have a tiara for headpiece and illusion tulle for her veil.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

ARCY Gayatin's creation inspired by Swatch Pastel de Pastel

Swatches of fashion ideas and mega glitz

Story on page G6

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Go loco over zed LOGO LOCO raffle promotion. Just keep downloading zed logos (for selected Nokia cell phones) from July 20 to September 13, 2002 and get a chance to win cool prizes in our daily, weekly and monthly raffle draws.

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There can only be one registered name per cellular phone number. In the event that another person registers using the same number, he/she automatically overwrites the previous name and the current/latest name will be recognized. However, one person can register several mobile numbers at one time.

The rates for the services and commands are as follows: Subscribers will be charged P15.00 for every successful download. For every query that was made, participants will be charged P1.00.

Should a participant wish to find out how many entries he has accumulated in the daily/weekly/monthly raffle, he/she simply keys in LOCO ENTRY and send to 288. He/she will receive thru text, the number of successful downloads he/she has made.

For the daily draws, the winning entry will be based on the pre-selected number downloader list submitted to DTI prior to the start of the promotion. From the downloader list, the DTI representative gets the entry that corresponds to the given list and shall be declared the winner. For the weekly and monthly draws, the computer randomly selects the winning entries.

All raffle draws will take place at the Sonera zed Office, 27th Floor, Tower II, Enterprise Building, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City at 11:00 a.m.

The draw schedule and the promotion period covered are as follows (Please note that daily draws that fall on a Saturday and Sunday shall be drawn on the succeeding Monday):

Week 6	Aug 24 - 30, 2002	September 2, 2002
Week 7	Aug 31 - Sept 6, 2002	September 9, 2002
Week 8	Sept 7 - 13, 2002	September 16, 2002
2nd Monthly Draw	Aug 17 - Sept 13, 2002	September 16, 2002

Prizes at stake are as follows:

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	3rd Prize	(2 winners) Palm m130
	4th Prize	(2 winners) Canon Ixus Power Shot A100
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	1st Prize (Weeks 6,8)	Suunto Vector
	2nd Prize	Canon Ixus X-1
	3rd Prize	Palm m105
Daily Draws	Weeks 7	Palm m100
	Weeks 6,8	Intel Sound Morpher

All prizes in excess of P 10,000.00 are tax paid. Sonera zed will shoulder all taxes of the winners.

A participant can only win once in the daily, weekly, and monthly draws for the entire duration of the promotion. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, he/she gets the prize of higher value and another entry will be generated in its place.

All winners of the weekly and grand draws will be informed initially via a call, a text message and registered mail. From the date of notification, winners have until 60 days to claim their prizes. Prizes not claimed within the given period will be forfeited in favor of Ace Saatchi & Saatchi with prior approval from DTI.

To claim your prize, please bring your cellular phone with the congratulatory text message, your letter of notification, and a valid ID to Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, 10th Floor, Feliza Building, 108 Herrera Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. For Luzon winners out of the Greater Mega Manila coverage, prizes will be sent to their registered addresses. For Vis-Min provincial winners, prizes will be shipped to them and winners will be informed on details of how to claim their prizes.

Employees of SMART Communications, Sonera zed, Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, as well as non revenue Smart special subscribers, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

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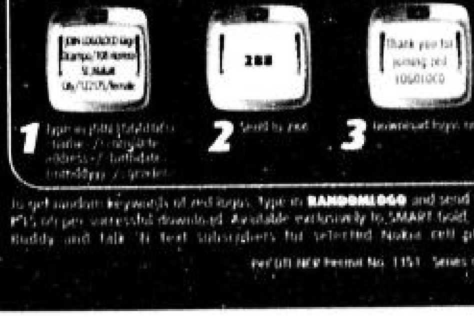
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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1151, Series of 2002.

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A grand birthday party at a hotel's re-christened Italian restaurant

CHEF Dietmar Dietrich presents a birthday cake to Mme. Angelita Lhuillier.

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE WATERFRONT Cebu City Hotel's Italian restaurant was recently re-christened, from Va Bene, to La Gondola. The mural, which depicted the Roman coliseum two centuries ago, has been changed, too. It now showcases the Grand Canal in Venice.

The opening was a memorable event, featuring soprano **Rachel Gerodias** and tenor **Lemuel de la Cruz** singing arias and duets from Italian operas, with **Najib Ismail** at the piano.

Infusing color to the restaurant is **Marco Protacio**, the hotel's food and beverage director. Exquisite food was been prepared by executive chef **Dietmar Dietrich**. He may be Austrian, but no one makes Italian dishes in Cebu better than he.

The latest grand party at La Gondola was the birthday celebration of Mme. **Angelita Lhuillier**, which coincided with the wedding anniversary of her eldest son, **Michel**, and his lovely wife **Amparito** (née **Llamas**, who's as pretty today as when she was a finalist in the Miss Caltex).

All the four children of Madame Angelita were present on such happy occasion. **Angie L. Mathieu** resides in the USA, but she's been in Cebu for some time to keep her mom company. Michel and Amparito took care of infinite details, especially the wine served, and the menu prepared by Chef Dietrich. **Philippe Lhuillier**, together with wife **Edna**, was on leave from his duties in Rome as the Philippine ambassador to Italy. Youngest of the brood, **Margie Lhuillier**, flew in from Las Vegas just a few days before the party, looking prettier and more youthful than ever.

There was quite a group of grandchildren, too: **Charles** and **Joanna** (née **Palanca**) **Lhuillier**, **Michael** and **Joanna** (née **Maitland-Smith**) **Lhuillier**, **Jean-Henri** and **Bea Lhuillier**, **Martin** and **Angie Miranda**, **Andrei Lhuillier**, **Kevin** and **Christine Limjoco**, **Clinton** and **Jacqueline Hess**, **Kathy** and **Chris Darza**, **Mikel** and **Claudine Ugarte**. The next family gathering would be organized by Chris, Kathy, Mikel and Claudine for their mom Margie as a surprise party on her birthday a couple of weeks later.

The party at La Gondola was one of the most beautiful for the excellent planning that went into it, and for the efficiency with which it was brought about. Cocktails and canapés were served in the patio outside the restaurant. Place cards indicated where everyone would sit during the served dinner.

It started with Antipasto Bella Italia, and a delicious soup of chicken cubes and fresh asparagus. The main course came wrapped in shimmering foil shaped like a gondola. It contained a filet of sole baked in aromatic herbs. Vegetables and mushroom risotto completed the dish. For dessert, there was cappuccino ice cream tart, and a huge cake ordered from **Marissa Unchuan** shaped like a mahjong table, complete with *fichas*. Was there a *pong* somewhere?

Dear friends and close relations completed

A GRAND/ p.G3

WATERFRONT'S Marco Protacio and Michel Lhuillier

RP Ambassador to Italy Philippe Lhuillier and wife Edna

TERESING Mendezona and Amparito Lhuillier

MME. Angelita Lhuillier (center) with her daughters, Angie (left) and Margie

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A grand birthday party . . .

From page G2

the guest list. For each and everyone, there was a vase overflowing with multicolored spring flowers to bring home. They were set all over the tables placed on stands of different heights, to give the effect of a floral wave, said Amparito.

Cebu's uncontested fashion czarina, **Viring Romoff**, also attended the event. She also had a birthday to mark two days later—an all-day affair at her home cum atelier. From morning till night her well-wishers dropped by to shower her with good wishes and gifts. All were welcomed to the constantly replenished buffet table, and there was so much food that the next day, she asked anyone who'd care to continue the celebration to drop by. Many did, too.

Viring often tells the story how, as a wartime widow (her American husband died in action), she learned to make dresses to raise her baby boy. With what? With parachute cloth, at the time made of the purest white silk. She's been in the business, highly personalized, for more than 50 years; and she still does the cutting herself.

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Studying the Language of the Heart

by: Mitzi Juntilla

When you find out what Nancy A. Sia's day job is, you would be impressed. consider this: She has been working for almost 15 years (even while still studying) and is now Human Resources Development Manager for Blues Brothers Inc. which manufactures M.R. Stylistic Lee and Rough Rider Jeans. As one gets to know Nancy better, one would find out that she is not only a woman of success, but that she has found ,fulfillment in her passion of working with the deaf and studying sign language.

Nancy's passion for sign language began simply: she once saw a child do a sign interpretation of the song "Make Me a Servant" during church and was impressed at how this deaf child was able to capture the meaning of the song and express it to the audience.

Her first foray into the study of sign language was in 1999. She took the Beginners Course in Sign Language in a school for the deaf inside Miriam College. Initially, it was just one of those special classes she took for additional knowledge, for she is a firm believer that one should constantly study and learn as long as one is still able to. But something inside her changed after taking that course. She had found her calling. From that time on, she had become a dedicated student of Sign Language.

What drew her to study the language of the deaf? She says that sign language is a language of the heart. In today's world where success is equated to something achieved with the use of verbal communication, communicating with the heart is rarely used. Nancy appreciates communication through sign language. Since the deaf rely on gestures and signs to convey their thoughts, it is inevitable that what they express are their true feelings and emotions, shown through their body language and facial expressions. Here there is no room

for the false or the insincere. This form of communication makes her feel closer to God, because it conveys only the truth, the very essence of the individual, so it is truly is the language of the heart.

One of the things that was a ignificant help to Nancy to overcome challenges was the support of her OCCI friends, a training company where she has been taking leadership seminars for personal growth. She took the Leadership Excellence Achievement Program (LEAP)

Nancy with the Director of LINK for the Deaf.

barely six months ago, and is currently coaching LEAP team. Her own LEAP stint as a student helped her move forward with her goal of finishing her Sign Language courses. It was the support and affirmation of her LEAP friends (facilitators, classmate and coaches) that helped her to continue with the pursuit of her dreams, despite the challenges and conflicts. It also helped her in balancing her life, by giving her a life outside of her corporate persona, and at the same time enhancing her as a leader who preaches by doing. Nancy continues her involvement in the LEAP program, juggling this, plus work, and studies, because of her desire to share to others all that she has learned. The program that helped bring out the best in her, she now helps bring to the students of the current team her support, and helping bring out the best in them, and affirming them as they pursue their own dreams. It was in another OCCI program, the 8th Intensive, that she was able to affirm that her dream to become an interpreter was not merely her own desire, but is a calling, her very own talent, a gift from God Himself. Nancy has indeed gone a long way from her *takas* classes and has ompleted a certificate course in sign language in the Philippines. Since she was the only student taking these classes, she was able to arrange for special classes with the kind consideration of the principal of the school for the deaf in Miriam College, Ms. Carol Ui and her sister Ms. Marie Ui. After a hectic day at work, she would attend classes starting at 8 pm onwards. After completing classes in the school for the deaf in Miriam College, she went on to have her training under the Philippine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (PRID), a government organization; and has recently become a certified interpreter for the deaf. Since her involvement with the cause for the hearing-impaired, she has become an active participant in events of the deaf community. This includes participating in the Deaf Awareness Week activities, and signing for Kapwa Ko Mahal. She has expressed her full support to LINK Center for the Deaf which incidentally was the venue of her sign language training conducted by a PRID trainor.

She is an advocate of giving opportunities for the hearing impaired, and has hired four qualified hearing-impaired persons in her place of work.

Nancy's biggest dream now is to study in Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. No, not for a Masters Degree in Business Administration as one would think. She would like to take a Masters Degree in Deaf Education. She ultimately wants to become a Legal interpreter, that is, someone who would sign for deaf people who are involved in various legal cases. Those she would like to express her gratitude to, for the support they have given her in achieving her dream are: Jane Lao-Chu, her niece who was her companion in her first class, the person to believe in her; her teachers Carol Ui and Marie Ui, who took extra time from their own schedules to teach her sign language; her PRID teacher, Joe Cipriano; Leodegario Morales, her driver who accompanied her to her *takas* classes;her friends from the S-Gang; her OCCI and LEAP family who have always shown appreciation for the things that she does; her mentor, Johnson Gumba; and most especially to her deaf friends who have touched and inspired her to study the language of the heart. Her message to people who are not hearing impaired is this: Deafness is not so much a disability as it is like knowing a foreign language. Hopefully, people will start giving opportunities for deserving deaf people who are more than capable to do the work of hearing people. They are not looking for charity, but should be given equal opportunities.

To those who want to communicate with our friends from the deaf community through sign language, you may contact LINK Center for the Deaf, the first accredited training arm of the Philippine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf at 4260382 or email them at linkdeaf@mla.nsclub.net. The Center is located at MQI Bldg.,42 Esteban Abada St., Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Nancy Sia

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Cover babies revisited

BABY & Co., the infant specialty shop of the SM group, opened its second store at The Podium recently. With the theme "Celebrating with Baby Magazine Covers," the inaugural saw a gathering of celebrity infants who have graced the cover of Baby Magazine over the past six years.

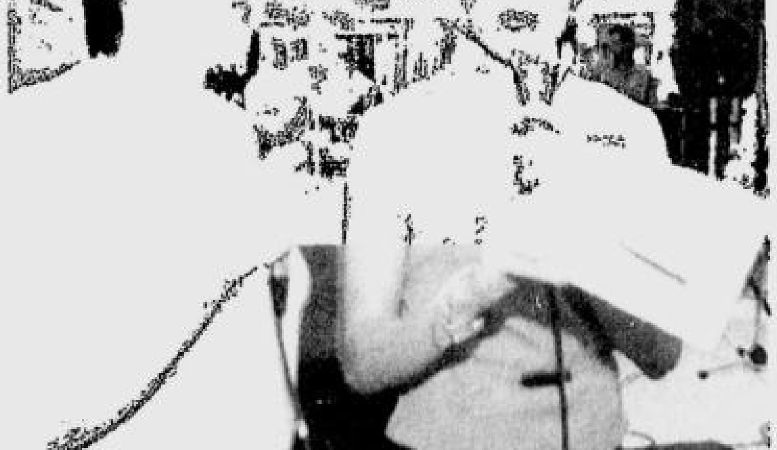
Despite the stormy weather, the cover babies and their moms and dads came. It turned out to be a fun-filled morning with the little ones playing in an area especially created for them by Baby & Co.

Friends of Baby & Co. also came, like Tessa Prieto-Valdes who arrived in a preggy getup. People actually thought she was expecting and she had to show the pillow tucked in her tummy. Liza Yao-Bate of Richwell Trading was also there.

FORMER gymnast and taekwondo jin Bea Lucero-Lhuillier and son Stefan admire the balloons created by the balloon man.

BOBBY Andrews and his wife pose with children Arty and Gabbie beside the March 2002 cover of Baby Magazine.

TESSA Prieto-Valdes is very much in the way—for the fun of it.



TESS Ponce-Baylon of Baby & Co. and Chiqui Roa-Puno

NIÑO Muhlach with wife Edith and adorable son Sandro

BROADCAST journalist Pia Hontiveros-Pagkalinawan and baby Zed

LISA Macuja and her children Mac and Missy enjoy the play area. All three have graced the cover of Baby Magazine.

STUDENTS of the Miriam College Child and Study Center marked Linggo ng Wika last Aug. 16 by wearing traditional Philippine costumes. The three-year-old boys and girls watched a demonstration of Philippine dances by University of the Philippines students, which was also attended by ABS-CBN's Hiraya Manawari.

Helpful tips on taking entrance tests

MSA Academic Advancement Institute offers helpful tips on taking entrance exams.

A month of academic preparation is better than a week of cramming. The longer you prepare for an exam, the better. This gives you more time to review past and present lessons and tackle more subject areas.

Spend more time reviewing subject areas that you find more difficult. Familiarize yourself with formula and equation for math and science subjects, and terms, vocabulary and expressions for English subjects.

Read newspapers. Be updated with what's happening in the country and the world. Know the latest in the economy, information technology, arts and culture. Also, read books and other sources of relevant information and knowledge.

Practice tests help students familiarize themselves with entrance exams. There are books by MSA that are available in major bookstores, which contain practice tests for entrance exams. They come in modules per subject area. Some are compiled in a book.

The night before the exam, ready the things you need for the exam, such as pens and pencils, sharpener, eraser, ruler, and exam permit.

On the day itself, come to the exam venue early. This gives you time to relax and possibly choose the seat you want. While taking the test, listen to the proctor for directions and read and follow instructions carefully. Answer each item as intelligently as you can. Check front and back pages of the exam sheet so you wont skip a section.

Once finished, do not leave the room until the time is up. Use the remaining time to answer items you skipped and review your answers.

MSA Academic Advancement Institute is located at 315 Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, QC, with tel. 929-9159, 925-7544 and 646-8245.

Florists vie for Rachy Z. Cuna Cup

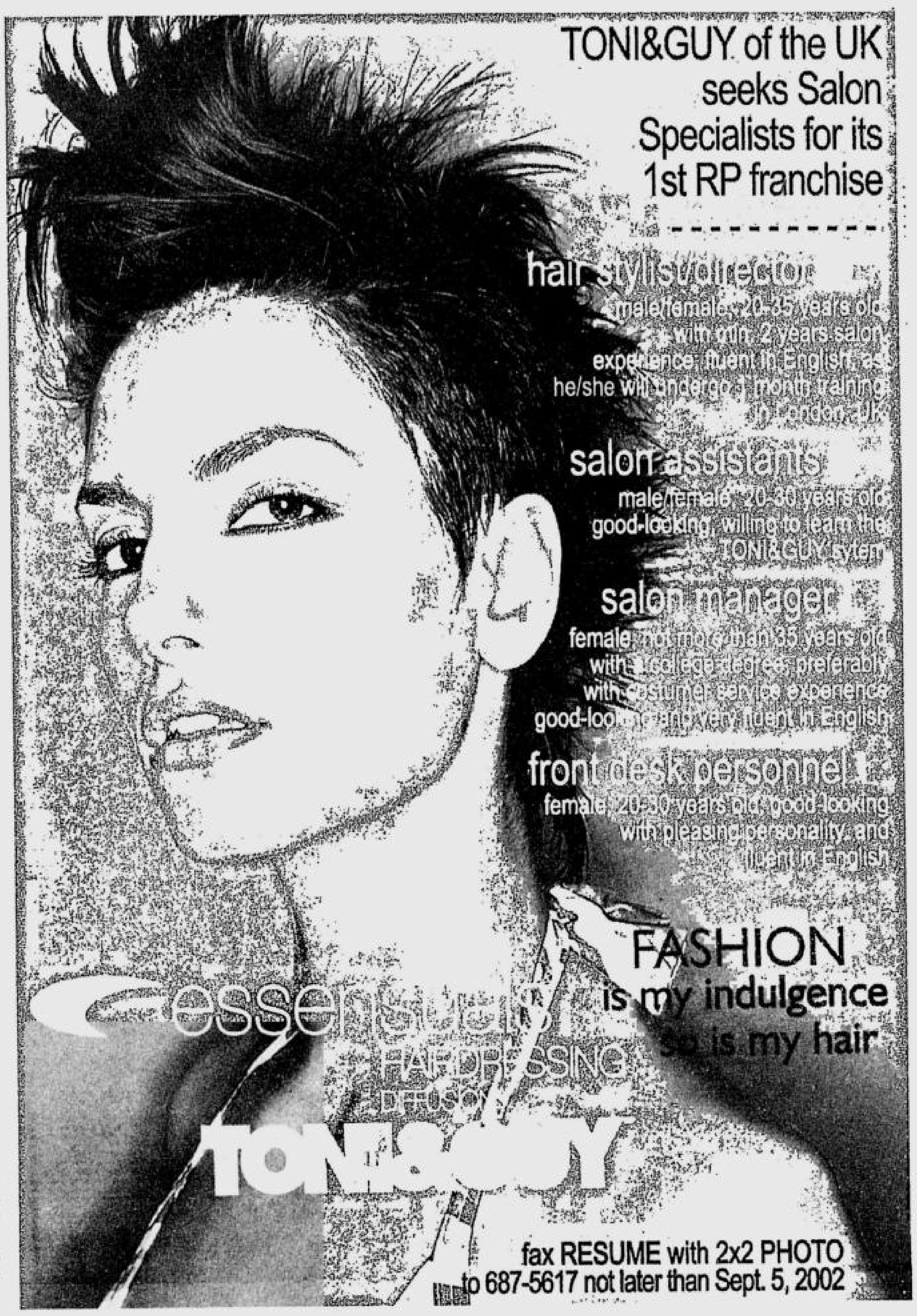
FLORAL Arts and Crafts Design Center Inc. (FACDCI) presents "Floral Fusion," a two-day event featuring the 2002 Floral Rhapsody and the Rachy Z. Cuna Cup, Sept. 14 and 15, respectively, at the Skyline's mezzanine, World Trade Center, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasay City.

Cuna, together with florists Phubast "Poo" Chedsdmethee of Thailand and Anson Low of Singapore, will showcase in Floral Rhapsody on Sept. 14 the latest designs and techniques in flower arrangement. The workshop will give florists and flower enthusiasts the opportunity to hone their skills.

Outstanding florists in professional and amateur categories will be honored on Sept. 15 at the Rachy Z. Cuna Cup competition. Special prizes await winners in the competition, now on its second year of recognizing and inspiring floral excellence.

The winner of the Cuna Cup in the professional level will get a study grant to Singapore or a cash prize of P50,000, and a trophy. The winner in the amateur level will receive P20,000 and a trophy, and can compete in the professional level next year.

Call 725-8986, 722-8644, 893-9807, 814-0847 or 596-1367; telefax 411-1486, 724-6757 or 893-9626.



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front desk personnel
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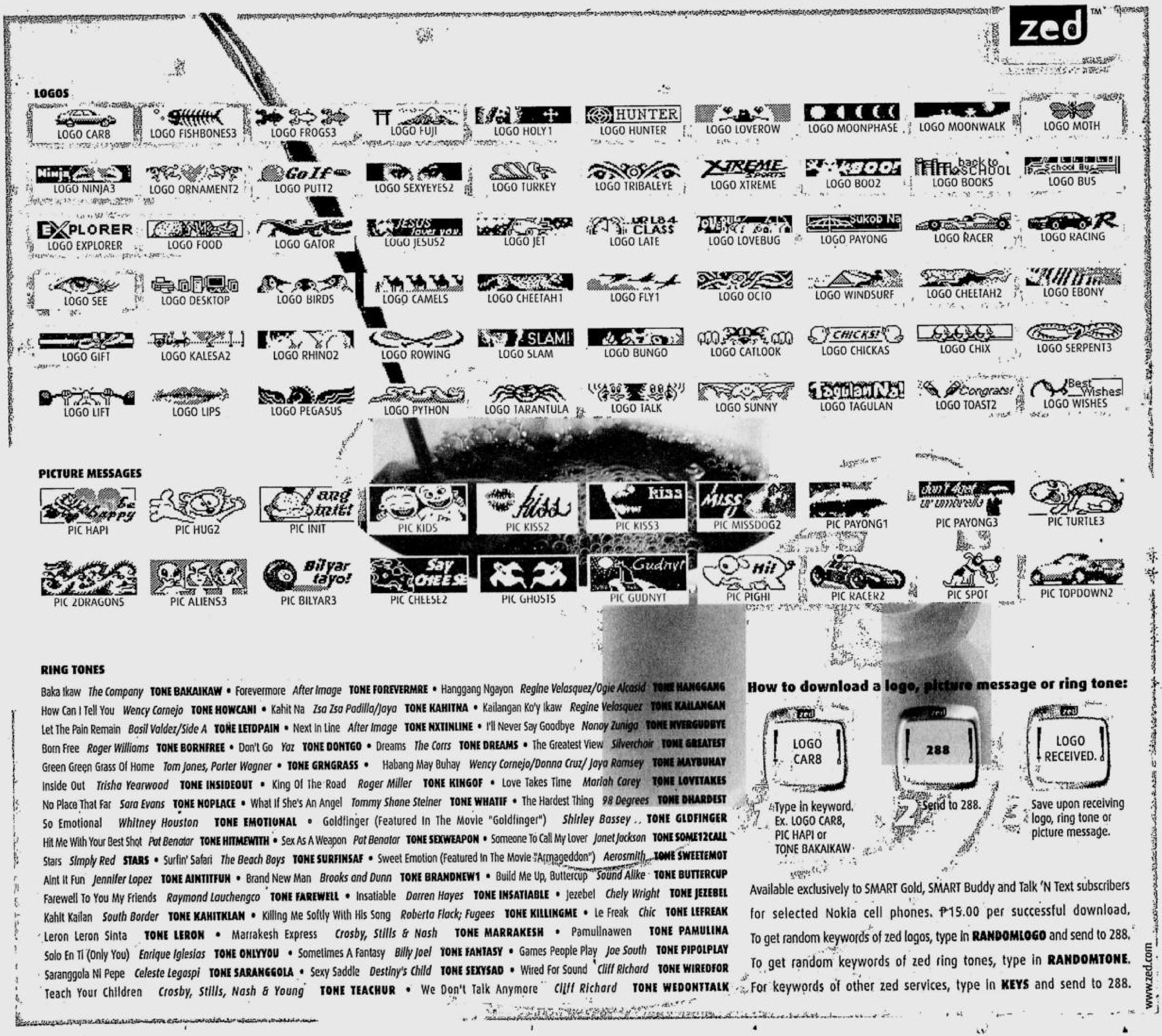

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No Place That Far *Sara Evans* **TONE NOPLACE** • What If She's An Angel *Tommy Shane Steiner* **TONE WHATIF** • The Hardest Thing *98 Degrees* **TONE DHARDEST**
So Emotional *Whitney Houston* **TONE EMOTIONAL** • Goldfinger (Featured In The Movie "Goldfinger") *Shirley Bassey* **TONE GLDFINGER**
Hit Me With Your Best Shot *Pat Benatar* **TONE HITMEWITH** • Sex As A Weapon *Pat Benatar* **TONE SEXWEAPON** • Someone To Call My Lover *Janet Jackson* **TONE SOME12CALL**
Stars *Simply Red* **STARS** • Surfin' Safari *The Beach Boys* **TONE SURFINSAF** • Sweet Emotion (Featured In The Movie "Armageddon") *Aerosmith* **TONE SWEETEMOT**
Aint It Fun *Jennifer Lopez* **TONE AINTITFUN** • Brand New Man *Brooks and Dunn* **TONE BRANDNEW1** • Build Me Up, Buttercup *Sound Alike* **TONE BUTTERCUP**
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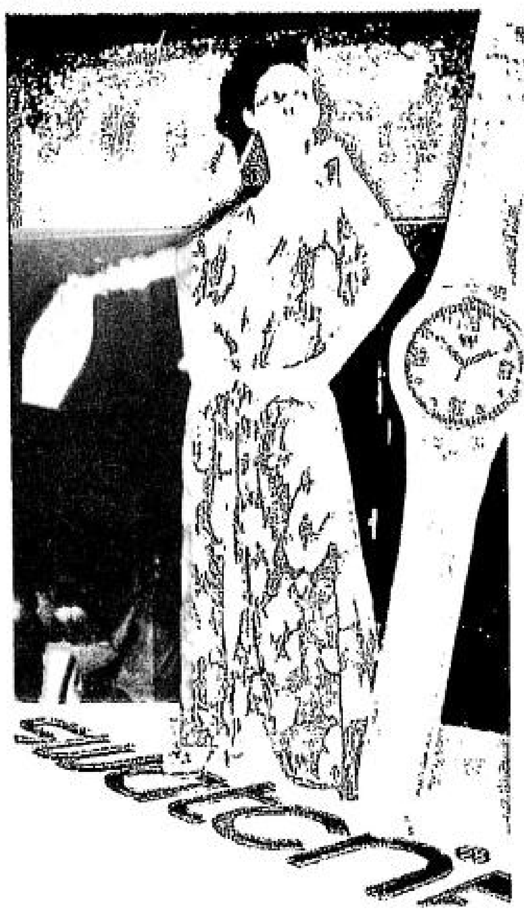

CITRUS Spritz by Chris Diaz

SPINNIN' Around by Gail Gozum

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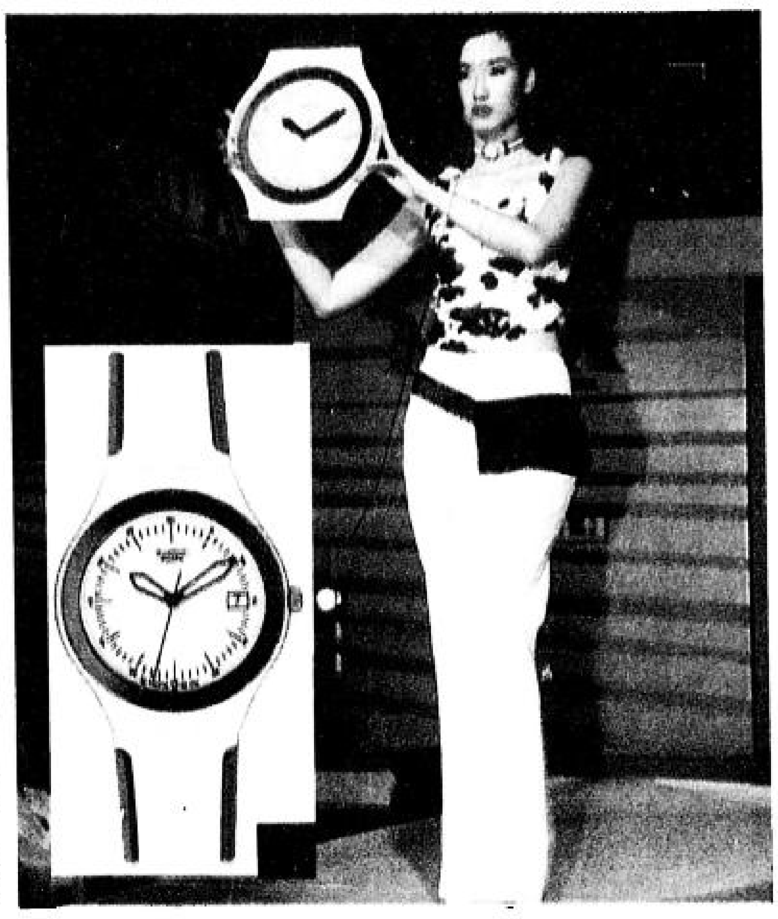


LIVE and Let Die by Roel Rosal

Swatches of fashion ideas and mega glitz

This year's Mega Style Annual fashion show was inspired by Swatch's fall-winter 2002 collection

By Anne A. Jambora

THERE is a unique bond that links time and fashion. Nothing speaks of time the way fashion does—from sexy miniskirts to hippie bell-bottoms, from ghastly oversized shoulder pads to angst-ridden grunge look.

Likewise, no timepiece transcends fashion trends the way Swatch does—from the extra-large and colorful Pop Swatch to the sleek and suave Skin, from the smooth James Bond collection to the spunky Square collection. By consistently innovating and checking the trend pulse, Swatch's witty character watches have withstood the test of time, and to this day command a throng of loyal followers. Telling time has never been this delightful.

It is but natural, then, for Swatch to celebrate 15 years in the time-keeping business with the country's chronicler of the fashion industry, Mega magazine, during the latter's fifth anniversary of Mega Style Annual.

Hosted by Swatch spokesperson Martin Nievera with Mai Mai Cojuangco, the first-time twin celebration marked a momentous occasion for both brands. While it is true that Mega magazine captures time through fashion and Swatch tells the time fashionably, both share an insatiable passion for quality, style and, yes, fashion. As Swatch unveiled its Fall-Winter 2002 collection, models garbed in stylish Swatch interpretations sashayed down the ramp.

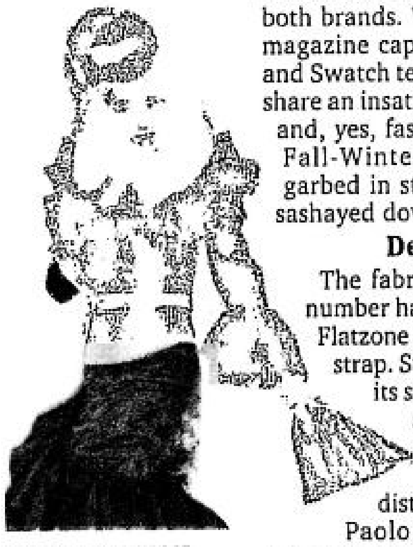
Design for design

The fabric for Jojie Lloren's strapless number had the same pattern as Swatch Flatzone Honey's honey-colored leather strap. Swatch 007's Thunderball, with its strap a swirl of colors in various shades of blue, was mirrored in Katrina Goulbourn's use of blue-gray crinkled and distressed material.

Paolo Raymundo's print-on-print take on men's fashion was designed for Swatch's casual 007 A View to a Kill. Kalahari, Skin collection's multifunction sports watch in khaki-colored leather strap,

SWATCHES/ p.G7

A VIEW to a Kill by Paolo Raymundo



SWATCH YOUR STEP. Tessa Prieto-Valdes

FLATZONE Honey by Jojie Lloren, who spray-painted the pattern of the watch's strap on the cloth

SWATCH babe Sarah Meier with beau Borgy Manotoc

MAI Mai Cojuangco

SWATCH hunk Troy Montero exudes the 007 charm.

GIFT Gate's Virgie Ramos (second from left) with Carol Sy, Bernard Tiu and Hans Sy

ALL BLACK AND A SWATCH. Mina Elechicon, Leo Burnett's managing director March Ventosa and Lex Media's Dennis Valdes

SWATCH TANGLE. Mega's Lorraine Belmonte and Liza Ilarde with Fanny Serrano

SWATCH ON OUR WRISTS. Abby Binay and Girlie Rodis

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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0650, Series of 2002

SWATCH spokesperson and evening's host Martin Nievera amid fireworks

Swatches . . .

From page G6

which can easily pass for a classic piece, was interpreted by Dennis Lustico in formal wear with sexy mesh bodice. The attention-grabbing Speed Addiction with bright-orange rubber strap, clear buckle and three chrono subdials, was defined in avant-garde designer Noni Diza's deconstructed piece.

Surprises

As a way of saying thanks for 15 successful years in the business, Gift Gate's Virgie Ramos raffled off some Swatches. The lucky winners were asked to walk down the ramp, among them Makati Rep. Teddy Boy Locsin, life-of-the-party Tessa Prieto-Valdes, TV host Angel Aquino, Randy Santiago and wife Marilou Santiago.

The twin celebration of Swatch and Mega magazine ended with a birthday bash for Swatch babe Sarah Meier. Her beau, Borgy Manotoc, was by her side as she kept trying to blow out the magic candles.

The Swatch Fall-Winter 2002 Collection is now available at all Swatch boutiques and Gift Gate stores.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

SWATCH US. Louie Locsin and Pepper Teehankee

RUNWAY "SWATCHERS." Raffle winners Rep. Teddy Boy Locsin and Randy Santiago on the catwalk

May big-time blow-out dahil
One year
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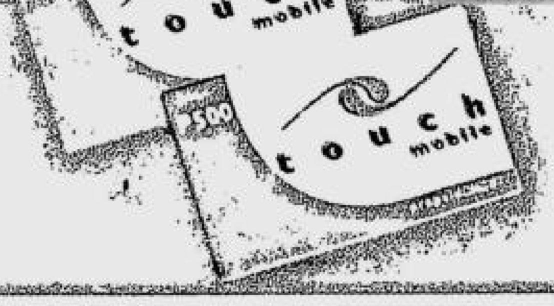
na kami!
As much as P100 na dagdag sa load mo!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May 20% dagdag sa load mo from September 1 to 30, 2002.*
Load a P500 call card and get P600 worth of credits, may P100 free bonus!
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

ISO-certified Multi-national Company engage in manufacturing various housing fixtures, committed to quality service and customer satisfaction. Awarded as Top Sectoral Export Performance Citation for Furniture Category are in need of the following personnel.

Assistant Supervisors (for production and maintenance)

- Graduate of any Engineering course
- Male/Female at least 21-30 years old
- With at least 6 months of supervisory work experience
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- Knowledge in machine operation for wooden product

MIS Assistant Supervisor

- Graduate of BS Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Male/Female between 21-30 years old
- Client Oriented
- Knowledgeable in Win NT/98, TCP/IP, PBX, PC troubleshooting
- Hardware and Software
- With six months experience in the following:
  - Server / LAN Admin - Telephone Technician - Data Communication

Assistant Supervisor for Health and Safety

- Graduate of B.S. Nutrition or Nursing (Registered Nurse)
- Male/Female at least 22-27 years old
- With supervisory work experience in medical section, prepare plan and implement health and safety programs of the company
- With knowledge in Word, Excel, and Powerpoint
- With at least two (2) years experience in the same capacity in an industrial or hospital set-up
- Preferably with knowledge in Philhealth, SSS and ECC procedure
- Must be willing to work on shift schedules, including Sundays and/or holidays

Programmer

- Graduate of BS Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Male/Female, between 21-30 years old
- Client oriented
- Knowledgeable in ORACLE, SQL, VISUAL BASIC and NETWORKING, Win NT/98, TCP/IP, PBX
- PC troubleshooting (Hardware and Software)
- With six months experience in the following:
  - Server / LAN Admin - Telephone Technician - Data Communication

Office Personnel

- Graduate of Computer Science or any computer related course
- Male/Female between 21-27 years old
- Knowledge in Auto Cad is an advantage
- With experience in office work, people oriented and can work on extended hours

Maintenance Staff (urgent hiring)

- Graduate of Vocational, Technical or Engineering course (College level) (Electrical, Mechanical or Electronic)
- Male, between 21-27 years old
- With 6 months experience in manufacturing company
- Can read electrical diagram symbol and familiar in machine troubleshooting
- With knowledge in AVR control and Compressor repair

Truck Head Driver (urgent hiring)

- High school or Vocational course (related in auto mechanic)
- Male at least 30 to 40 years old
- Experience in Driving Truck Head
- Skills in Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- With Professional Driver's License (R Code - 6 & 3, 2, 1)

Forklift Operator (urgent hiring)

- At least High School, Vocational, College level
- Male between 20-27 years old
- With 6 months experience in forklift operation
- With Professional Driver's License
- Good moral character

Production Operator (urgent hiring)

- High School, Vocational or College level
- Female between 18-27 (5'0") in height, Male 20-27 years old (5'2") in height
- Well built and able body
- Good moral character
- Preferably residing within Cavite area

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY

SCAD Services(S) Pte., Ltd.

BLOCK 23 PHASE IV ROSARIO, CAVITE

You can mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address. For inquiries, call telephone no. (046) 437-2486 or 437-0849. Look for Christian, Janice, Rona, Arlene or you can e-mail your resumé at hrd_scad@pacific.net.ph

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EuroCreditCooperative

Employment Opportunities

FINANCIAL TRAINEES

A growing and professional financial organization providing a range of retail financial services is now seeking applications from young and motivated individuals who want to pursue a career in financial cooperativism and microfinance.

Minimum qualifications for the position of financial trainee are:

- Personable and with good communication skills.
- Can easily relate to individuals of different backgrounds and orientation.
- With business sense and above average academic background.
- Age between 21-24 years old.
- Graduates of any course but preferably Business, Accounting, Finance, Economics or Marketing
- Requires minimum supervision and a team player

Successful candidates must attend and pass the Institution's Financial Entrepreneurship Program before they can assume formal employment.

Please send CV with photo by 6 September 2002 to:

Recruitment Officer
Rm. 203 Sunrise Centre
488 P. Ocampo St. Malate, Manila
Tel. No. 524-92-01 Fax. No. 524-92-04

CHATEAU 1771
Group of Restaurants

PORTICO — MALATE
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Sentro 1771 creates a modern cuisine out of Filipino flavors.
Our cooking is vivid and ambitious. Most of it is new.
Everything about it is excitng.

We are looking for dedicated and articulate staff willing to guide our guests through the pleasures and surprises of our cuisine.

At Sentro, our kitchen is open. We want guests to watch and observe, to comment on our cooking and learn from our staff. Cooking will require not only an adventurous palate and excellent kitchen technique but also a flair for presentation and a knack for conversation during the busiest times of the shift.

We are hiring: **SOUS CHEFS** **COOKS** **KITCHEN MANAGERS** **KITCHEN HELPERS**

Our restaurants attract curious souls, serious foodies and guests who have experienced the excellent service of Chateau 1771. The pleasure of dining increases with knowledge. Our Dining Room Staff must be informed and informative. Servers who love food can describe new ingredients, unfamiliar sauces and unusual food combinations.

We are hiring: **JR. MANAGERS** **SERVERS** **ASST. MANAGERS** **RECEPTIONISTS** **MAITRE D'** **CASHIERS**

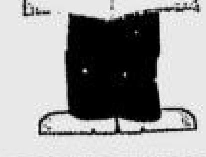
There will be extensive training in all aspects of our operations. With three restaurants in three different parts of the city, there will be much room for variety of experience and professional growth within our organization.

We are also hiring: **HR, Sales and Marketing Assistants**

Interested?
send your resumé, 2x2 ID photo, transcript of records, certificates of employment or clearance from previous employers to:

HR Management Group
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City

• Positions available up to September 30, 2002; Graduating students are welcome to apply.



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Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer. JOB MARKET

We are a global engineering consultancy firm
in search of an

ENGINEERING DESIGN MANAGER

to join our organization.

The Job

The Engineering Design Manager will be responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing structural and civil design standards to ensure the provision of quality design output within prescribed policies, to its wide variety of clientele.

Basic qualifications include

- ✓ Licensed Civil Engineer
- ✓ With Masteral Degree in Civil Engineering preferred
- ✓ At least 15 years extensive technical experience in civil and structural design, and Project Management in a global engineering consultancy firm
- ✓ Proven track record of at least 7 years in the management of a design team
- ✓ Well versed with both local and international codes
- ✓ Articulate, can express ideas excellently both verbally and in writing
- ✓ Flexible, able to lead and motivate teams, work effectively with all levels in the organization, sustain stress and time pressure, can work in an above average capacity
- ✓ Ability to be a self-starter and work with a minimum of direction
- ✓ Excellent management and leadership capabilities

A competitive remuneration package awaits the successful candidate. Please send your comprehensive resumé and 2x2 picture at:

MK-95
THE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F, Atrium Building
Makati Avenue, Makati City

ALLTEL
INFORMATION SERVICES
Proven Solutions. Powerful Vision.

ALLTEL, the worldwide leader in providing the leading retail banking solutions to the financial industry, is a Fortune 500 company with offices in over 55 countries. Of the top 50 banks in the United States, 48 choose ALLTEL as their software and service solution partner. Throughout the world, we have over 800 institutional clients, with over 100 of these in the Asia-Pacific region.

To support our continued high growth in Asia, we are looking for a dynamic individual to fill the position of:

Quality Services Manager

You will be responsible for driving ALLTEL Asia Professional Services Group's Total Quality initiative. This includes the development of strategies and programmes in alignment with the Group's business objectives, identification of the appropriate model/methodology, execution of the programme leading to certification, and maintenance of quality processes. Instituting and promoting a culture of total quality awareness within the Group are also essential parts of your role.

Requirements:

- Degree in Information Technology, Business or Engineering with minimum 5 years' relevant work experience
- CSQE, CQA, or certified ISO or CMM auditor
- Excellent hands-on and LEAD implementation experience with quality models such as ISO or CMM is a MUST
- Self-motivated and resourceful with strong leadership, interpersonal, communication, analytical, training and influencing skills
- Project management experience in an application development life cycle is an added advantage
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Open to extended travel within the region

Compensation package will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Well-qualified applicants are invited to send/email your detailed resume stating current and expected salary not later than 21 September 2002 to

Human Resources Department
Alltel International Resource Management, Inc.
16F Citibank Tower, Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City, 1200, PHILIPPINES
Email: asia.pacific.hr@alltel.com Website: www.alltelfinancial.com
(We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.)

GigahertZ
computer system

We need new Blood!!! Good Ones!!!

STORE MANAGER

Male/Female, 26-35 years of age, Graduate of a four-year computer course from any reputable school. Have excellent communication and leadership skills. At least 1-2 years of relevant experience.

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

Male/Female, ages 22-30 years old, a graduate of computer science or its equivalent. Highly adept in computer troubleshooting (Hardware and Software) has at least had a working experience.

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Preferably Female, 20-28 years old. Graduate of any accounting course from a reputable school. Computer literate, can work well under pressure.

Interested applicants may submit in their resumés to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES
GIGAHERTZ COMPUTER SYSTEM
622 JTIC Building, Shaw Boulevard corner
Samat Street, Mandaluyong City

or you may apply personally at the above address and look for Ms. Norma Maglaya.

GK **G.K. CORPORATE FASHION (HK) LIMITED**

We are an international manufacturing company in search for young and dynamic individuals to fill the following job vacancies:

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

CODE : SR-PH1

- Male or Female
- Degree holder from a reputable school
- Preferably with background in Sales
- Result oriented, aggressive, hard working and honest

SALES/MARKETING STAFF

CODE : MS-CN3

- Female; 22-26 years old; Single
- Degree holder from a reputable school
- Preferably with background in internet sales and marketing
- Strong command in written and spoken English
- Excellent correspondence skills
- Willing to be assigned in China

QUALITY CONTROL OFFICER

CODE : QC-CN1

- With firm background in Quality Control systems and procedures
- Has extensive knowledge in ISO, QA, BS & EN standards
- Has previously worked in a fabric testing laboratory
- Male or Female; preferably single
- Willing to travel or be assigned in China

Interested applicants should submit their comprehensive resumés with 2x2 photos in long brown envelopes **on or before September 4, 2002** at MFT International Showroom, Mezzanine Floor, 109 Gamboa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati or email to hr@gkfashion.com from **September 5, 2002** onwards..

Please indicate position and code at the back of the envelopes.

One Financial Group

is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

Sales Managers

This person should have significant experience managing a sales team, preferably in financial services, equities, insurance or real estate.

Sales Advisers

This person should have work experience in sales/marketing, preferably in financial services, equities, insurance or real estate.

Research Analyst

This person should have experience in fundamental analysis, corporate valuations and/or corporate finance.

One Financial Group

is a full-line, full-service, fully integrated financial services provider and advisory serving both Corporate and Personal Clients.
A career at OFG is based on continuous learning with an emphasis on rigorous training. If you are up to the challenge, please send, e-mail or fax your resumé or c.v. to:

e-mail: careers@one.com.ph
phone: (63) 2 759-4205 fax: (63) 2 759-4211
address: Units 912-914, Ayala Triangle Tower I &
Exchange Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati City

UNDP

ENR Program: Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Framework Development and Implementation

URGENT RECRUITMENT

An international organization working together with the Department of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR), aiming to assist in the development of an ENR framework for the protection of the environment and the sustainable development of natural resources in the Philippines, is in search of qualified individual for the post of RESEARCH ASSISTANT to be based and reporting directly to the Committee on Ecology, House of Representatives.

Salary is gross between 20,000 - 23,000 pesos per month

Duties and Responsibilities

- ➢ To review existing ENR policy environment in relation to the proposed ENR legislative measures
- ➢ To identify policy and legislative gaps, concerns, overlaps or needs in the ENR policy and legislative agenda
- ➢ To provide legal or technical assistance and support in the multi-sectoral and stakeholder consultations to be conducted for purpose of identifying policy/legislative gaps, concerns, overlaps or needs.
- ➢ To finalize the list of policy/legislative gaps, concerns, overlaps or needs identified in the multi-sectoral and stakeholder consultants
- ➢ To come up with policy recommendations to address the policy/legislative gaps, concerns, overlaps or needs identified
- ➢ To formulate amendatory provisions to pending DENR bills
- ➢ To draft and finalize ENR related bills
- ➢ To perform such other related functions as may be directed by the Committee Secretary

Qualifications: A lawyer with expertise in ENR Laws or a holder of a Master's degree in any one of the following fields: Environmental Planning, Environmental Science, Natural Sciences (Agriculture, Forestry, Biology), Economics and other planning related fields; preferably with at least 2 years experience working with DENR or its attached agencies or in a government project related to environment and natural resources planning/management, with research and writing skills

All application letters and comprehensive resume should reach our office on or before 7 September 2002. Address applications to the Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or PO Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail) or Fax Nos. (632) 8160461; 893-9598 or E-mail to: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

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NEEDED FOR SECOND SEMESTER

CIVIC WELFARE TRAINING SERVICE TEACHER

Must be:

- A.B. Political Science or History major graduate;
- With 18 education units / LET passer an advantage;
- With knowledge in research and community organizing;
- Computer literate.

Submit credentials personally at:

NOTRE DAME OF GREATER MANILA
Madre Ignacia Avenue (formerly 12th Avenue)
Grace Park, Caloocan City
Tel. Nos.: 361-74-35 / 366-63-30

FOUNDATION FOR THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT
Fostering Partnerships for the Environment

The Foundation for the Philippine Environment, an NGO National Environmental Fund, is looking for qualified staff for the position of

INFORMATION OFFICER

Position Summary:

The Information Officer is responsible for the operation of the management information system of FPE.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

1. College graduate preferably of Computer Science or other computer related courses with background or training/ exposure in Information Technology.
2. Three years work experience in project management, specifically in the areas of systems analysis, systems and network administration, computer software and hardware maintenance.

Please mail your application letter, bio-data, diploma and transcript of records with your SSS number and Tax Identification Number with latest 2x2 color photograph to:

The HRDA Manager
FOUNDATION FOR THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT
77 Matahimik Street, Teacher's Village, Diliman, Quezon City

Applications must be received not later than 13 September 2002
Previous applicants need not apply.
We will respond to qualified applicants only.
No telephone inquiry will be entertained.

CIGI **SIG**

CIGI, a member of the Global British Oxygen Company (BOC) Group. We have a reputation for technical innovation and reliable service, making us the leading industrial gas manufacturer and service provider in the whole Philippines. In support to our growth initiatives we are looking for a seasoned, responsible and highly motivated individuals to assume the following key positions:

PROJECT/RISK MITIGATION ENGINEER

The role:

- ➢ To provide assistance in the roll out of technical and training programmes aimed at creating a proactively safe production and distribution operations.
- ➢ To contribute actively in the planning, implementation, progress management and evaluation of projects.
- ➢ To assist engineering personnel in ensuring safety and risk management in all process modifications and engineering changes.

The qualifications:

- ➢ Male, 25 to 30 years old.
- ➢ Should be a Licensed Mechanical, Chemical, Industrial or Electrical Engineer.
- ➢ Computer literate (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, MS Project or Primavera)
- ➢ Must be results oriented, flexible, self-motivated and possess a strong sense of urgency and enthusiasm in his work.
- ➢ With working experience in a manufacturing industry.

WELDING SALES SPECIALIST

We are looking for two persons to fill up the position. The welding sales specialist will be responsible for the overall development of joining electrodes, gas equipment, and related welding consumable product line by getting and managing new accounts, and assisting the area salespeople in selling to prospective customers.

Qualifications:

- ➢ Young, energetic person with extensive knowledge and skill in SMAW, Hardfacing, and Oxy-fuel Gas Equipment application.
- ➢ With four (4) years previous experience in related job function in a welding supply company handling similar products.
- ➢ Practicing welders willing to transfer to a sales position, are also welcome to apply.
- ➢ Must have a valid driver's license, preferably with at least 2 years driving experience.
- ➢ Preferably with knowledge in computer application (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
- ➢ Results-oriented and sociable, with good communication skills.

This is an immediate requirement, all interested applicants are requested to send their resumé, with 2x2 picture to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc.
CIGI Building, Sheridan Street, Mandaluyong City
Email Address: sol.himan@cigi.com.ph

SWISHER

SWISHER PHILIPPINES
an International Hygiene & Sanitation Company
is in immediate need of the following:

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Qualifications:

- ✓ Minimum five (5) years experience in Sales
- ✓ Proven track record in sales
- ✓ Minimum of one (1) year in managerial position
- ✓ College graduate, preferably with a Bachelor's Degree in Business
- ✓ Hardworking, results-oriented, assertive, with excellent communication skills
- ✓ Preferably has a good network in the restaurant industry

SALES & MARKETING ASSISTANTS

Qualifications:

- ✓ Minimum one (1) year experience in Sales
- ✓ Proven track record in sales
- ✓ College graduate, preferably with a Bachelor's Degree in Business
- ✓ Hardworking, career and goal-oriented, assertive, with excellent communication skills

For serious applicants only. Please send comprehensive resumé with picture, transcript of records and reference letter from previous employer to:

105 Sgt. Catolos Street
Cubao, Quezon City
Or email to swisherphil@yahoo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

An importer and exclusive distributor of several tire and motor oil brand offers a competitive package to qualified applicants for the following position:

SALES OFFICER

Motor Oils Division

- 25 to 35 years old;
- Preferably with experience in selling consumer items;
- Honest and hardworking, with excellent communication skills;
- Must have valid driver's license.

APPLICANTS MUST SEND THEIR RESUMÉS WITH TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS WITH PICTURE TO:

TASCO, INC.
No. 70, 20th Avenue, Murphy, Quezon City
Phone Nos. 911-6207; 911-8891

JAVA DEVELOPER

Demonstrated Java Technology skills in
Java 2
Java Server Pages, Java Servlets
JavaBeans, Enterprise JavaBeans
JDBC, RMI, Client-Server etc.
Expertise in developing under the J2EE architecture - design, development and deployment.

Demonstrated Web Development skills in
HTML / DHTMl (required)
JavaScript (required)
Applets (required)
ASP (advantage)
PHP (advantage)
C++ (advantage)

Please indicate in your resumé skills and knowledge in various technologies
such as XML, SOAP, CORBA,
Include familiarity and use of various databases
(PostgreSQL, SQL Server, Access, mySQL, Oracle, etc.)
as well as various OS/WebServer (e.g. WebSphere, Bea Weblogic, SunOne, JRun, etc.)
platforms that you have worked in.

Developers will experience in Enterprise Development, ERP Integration,
Banking Applications and CRM is highly desirable.

IT CONSULTANT / ANALYST

Degree holder of Computer Science, MIS, or any related discipline
Strong Sales and Marketing background in IT solutions
Strong systems and business process analysis skills for project scoping
and solutions development
Expertise in Project Management, Application Design and System Architecture
Knowledgeable in various Technology Platforms
Consultants with experience in Enterprise Development, ERP Integration,
Banking Application and CRM is highly desirable.
Strong communication skills with an excellent command or written and Spoken English

Please send resumé at k2 inter[a]ctive, inc.
10F The Orient Square Building, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City 1605
or email at youneedme@k2ia.com

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k2 inter[a]ctive
solutions that connect

FT

FINANCIAL TIMES

Electronic Publishing

FINANCIAL TIMES ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING is seeking dynamic individuals to become part of its Manila operation. The ideal applicant is computer and Internet literate and has an inexhaustible thirst for national and international news, current affairs and all forms of information. Expert training will be given to all successful applicants who will then become part of a team involved in content creation and management for an international clientele.

ABSTRACTORS and INDEXERS

Successful applicants will be responsible for content and value creation for online news and information vendors. He/She must meet the following criteria:

- College graduate, not more than thirty years old
- Excellent writing and editing skills in English, preferably with abstracting or indexing experience
- Good comprehension skills and a high level of attention to details
- Able to work on shifts

Interested applicants should post their detailed resumé, cover letter and most recent photograph not later than **Friday, September 6, 2002,** to the **HR and Administration Manager** at the following address:

Financial Times Electronic Publishing Philippines Inc.
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Visit our website www.ft.com

If you think you've got what it takes to push your career to the next level, then this could be for you...

Two of the country's leading financial services companies are in search for candidates to fill-in the position of **fifteen (15) Personal Finance Managers** who will undergo a rigid one-and-half months classroom training covering various areas in personal financial planning. Aside from having the chance to work with high net-worth clients, the position offers a basic remuneration package of P20,000/mo. with other incentives and cash bonuses reaching an equivalent 17th month pay.

Just don't go wasting your time reading this if you...

- cannot envision yourself climbing up that stage receiving your sales champion trophy...
- can't seem to have the drive to excel and be promoted in less than a year's time...
- don't lust for full recognition by our Chairman/CEO including your own peers...
- don't get excited with our 2003 travel incentives to **Seoul, South Korea; Shanghai, China; and Sydney, Australia...**

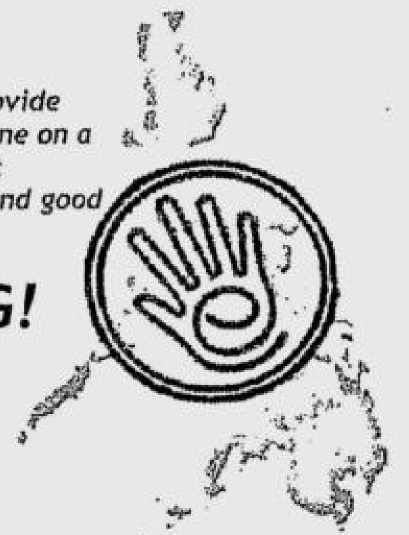
But then if you persist, we invite you to challenge our interview and screening process if you ...

- are male or female, aged 22 up to 33 years old, with pleasing personality
- are a graduate of Ateneo, La Salle, UA&P, UST, UP and other exclusive schools
- belong to the top 25% of the class with good oral/written communication skills (Chinese language ability a definite advantage)
- have an excellent sales track record from banking, airline, hotel, pharmaceutical industries

So, do you really think you can be part of us?

If yes, then just personally submit your resume complete with a 2x2 colored picture for a preliminary interview at the 5th floor of the Insular Life Bldg., Ayala cor Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, starting **September 02-06, 2002** only. Look for Ms. Jeng Santos or Ms. Len Alviar of the Financial Planning Department from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Mondays to Fridays.

PEOPLESUPPORT



eReps™

are PeopleSupport's customer service representatives who provide online customer service via email, chat, voice-over-IP and phone on a 24x7 basis. Qualifications: Four year college degree. Excellent customer service orientation, English communication skills, and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

travel eReps™

2+ years' experience in airline reservations (preferably international), or hotel/car rental reservations.

or

Tourism/HRM graduate, with experience in the hospitality industry, preferably in reservations.

technical eReps™

College graduates from Computer Science/IT courses (or any related degree/background). Experience in providing technical support.

or

Experience in providing technical support for computer hardware and/or software. MCSE, MCSP and A+ Certification is a plus.

Sales eReps™

College graduates with telemarketing and/ or outbound experience.

We offer a dynamic work environment, casual dress code, professional development and training, and a competitive compensation and benefits package.

Operations Managers

Manage a large team tasked to deliver excellent customer service for a client account. Accountable for meeting service levels by maintaining high quality and productivity targets. Responsible for effectively working with the client and other departments.

Qualifications: 3 years management experience in a 24x7 call center environment handling an inbound or outbound team. Willing to work graveyard shifts. Excellent English communication and people management skills. Flexible and adaptable.

travel/technical trainers

Train eReps on customer service, systems, client sites and updates. Develop course curriculum and material for training purposes. Plan and prepare continuing education programs for client verticals. Be available to work all shifts, including graveyard and the occasional weekend. *Experience in travel or technical training is a plus.*

Qualifications: 5+ years training experience on software, customer service skills, sales skills, and/or management skills or 3 years training experience and an intimate working knowledge of contact center environment. Experience with course development. Ability to coordinate multiple projects. Good working knowledge of adult educational concepts and the Internet. Proficient in MS Office. Excellent English communication, training and presentation skills.

PeopleSupport provides online customer service via email, chat, voice-over-IP, and phone. Our global network is composed of corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, US operations center in St. Louis, Missouri, and of course, the Asia Pacific Headquarters in Manila, Philippines.

SEND YOUR RESUMES TO
applicants@peoplesupport.com
12-TH-14TH FLOOR PHILAMLIFE TOWER, PASEO DE ROXAS, MAKATI

THE WORLD BANK OFFICE MANILA (WBOM)

For further decentralization of the World Bank's Infrastructure Program in the Philippines, the World Bank Office in Manila is recruiting the positions of: (a) Operations Officer (Infrastructure), and (b) Municipal Engineer. Both positions will require highly competent, results-oriented individuals to provide expert technical assistance and coordination skills related to the strengthening and expansion of World Bank-assisted program in Infrastructure Development, including the sub-sectors of urban development, water and sanitation, transportation, and energy. Based in Manila, he/she is expected to travel frequently within the country. Initially, the appointment is for a two-year term basis subject to one year probationary period, with a possibility of renewal. These positions are subject to local recruitment and compensation package and offers attractive, challenging and professional growth opportunities in working within a global development organization.

The selected candidates will report to the Team Leader for Infrastructure Unit and would have the following major duties and responsibilities:

OPERATIONS OFFICER (Infrastructure)

Duties and Accountabilities

- As a member of our Philippine Infrastructure team located in Manila, work closely with both our Manila and headquarter staff to provide expert technical assistance in the design and implementation of operations in Infrastructure as well as in policy development.
- Carry out responsibilities for a variety of operational tasks (e.g. participating as a number of a multi-disciplinary team and undertaking assignments for project preparation, appraisal and supervision in field of expertise).
- Provide inputs to or prepare diverse operational products / outputs (e.g. sector and country briefings, background reports, case studies, portfolio performance reviews, etc.).; review and process operational documents, coordinating across disciplines and project components with other team members; participate in missions and in discussions regarding advice to borrowers.
- Liaise with, and provide information, to relevant national and local government units, NGOs, peoples organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, international donor agencies, and other stakeholders on matters related to the Infrastructure Development sector in the country and World Bank assistance in the sector;
- Assist in coordinating World Bank activities in the Infrastructure Development sector.

Minimum qualifications, skills and competencies

- Master's Degree or higher in public sector management, economics, urban planning, social sciences and humanities, or other field related to urban development and infrastructure management.
- At least seven years of proven track record in working on infrastructure projects and analytical studies. Familiar with Philippine laws and regulations in the infrastructure sector, including government project approval and supervision procedures. Experience with development and implementation of World Bank or other donor-financed operations is desirable.
- Sector knowledge in at least one of the following areas: urban development and planning; decentralization and local government management; transportation; water and sanitation; energy.
- Outstanding interpersonal and networking skills, with a strong understanding of the institutional, social, political and cultural issues in one or more of the Infrastructure Development sub-sectors;
- Excellent team player, with a strong client and results orientation, high degree of adaptability, and ability to work independently, with minimum supervision;
- Excellent written and verbal language skills in English and Tagalog, and proficient computer skills.

MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

Duties and Accountabilities

- As a member of our Philippine Infrastructure team located in Manila, work closely with both our Manila and headquarter staff to provide expert technical assistance in the design and implementation of operations in Infrastructure as well as in policy development, focusing particularly on technical / engineering matters of infrastructure projects and policies.
- Carry out responsibilities for a variety of operational tasks (e.g. technical analyses, appraisal and supervision of engineering aspects of projects, review of technical specifications of procurement documents, etc.)
- Participate in developing and implementing sector strategy and assist in policy work.
- Participate in missions in area of specialization; provide technical inputs and guidance to counterparts on appropriate scope, technology, costs, etc; prepare terms of reference for project- or sector- related work.
- Liase with, and provide information, to relevant national and local government units, NGOs, peoples organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, international donor agencies, and other stakeholders on matters related to the Infrastructure Development sector in the country and World Bank assistance in the sector;
- Assist in coordinating World Bank activities in the Infrastructure Development sector.

Minimum qualifications, skills and competencies

- Master's Degree or higher in municipal or civil engineering.
- At least seven years of proven track record in designing and implementing projects in one or more of the sub-sectors, water supply, drainage, sanitation, transportation, or energy. Demonstrated technical expertise in the engineering aspects of one or more of these sub-sectors. Experience with development and implementation of World Bank or other donor-financed operations is desirable.
- Outstanding interpersonal and networking skills, with a strong understanding of the institutional, social, political and cultural issues in one or more of the Infrastructure Development sub-sectors;
- Excellent team player, with a strong client and results orientation, high degree of adaptability, and ability to work independently, with minimum supervision;
- Excellent written and verbal language skills in English and Tagalog, and proficient computer skills.

Please send your application letter, with a comprehensive resume with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details) not later than September 6, 2002. Applicants who will be short-listed will be called upon for interview. Send the above to: **The Resource Management Officer, Box No. 300, c/o PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, 5/F Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.**

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket
ONLINE

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

WANTED

A high-end natural therapy center is in need of graduates of medical related courses. (preferably Physical Therapy). Applicants who pass the following requirements will undergo a one-month intensive training with allowance:

- *23-30 years old, preferably male*
- *With pleasing personality*
- *Very good physical and health condition*
- *Above average academic record*
- *Excellent communication skills*
- *Highly motivated to learn*

Interested parties may fax their resume at 718-2295 or e-mail at icons@globequest.com.ph

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MasterCard

MEMBER RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications:

- College graduate, computer-literate with previous or present relevant work experience in the financial services industry
- Customer relationship and sales oriented
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- With strong office management and administrative background
- Ability to work with minimum supervision

The position reports directly to the Country Manager. The successful candidate will be tasked with member relations and sales support as well as administrative and secretariat responsibilities.

All applications must be sent to:

MasterCard International Philippines Inc.
MCPO Box 1923, Makati City

Telephone inquiries and/or hand-carried applications will NOT be entertained. Only qualified candidates will be considered. All submissions are deemed confidential.

An Established Network Marketing Co. (MLM) invites suitably qualified and experienced Individual to fill up the following key positions:

VIDEO EDITOR

☐ Male/Female, 25-35 years old; Knowledgeable in 3D Graphics Animation and Production; With background experience in Advertising or TV network station is an advantage

AUDIT STAFF

☐ Male/Female, 25-30 years old; Accounting graduate; Must have 2 to 3 years experience in auditing, liquidation of expenses/disbursements; Must have good verbal communication skill and leadership ability; computer literate

MARKETING ASSISTANT

☐ Male, single, 22-25 years old; at least 5'6" in height; Graduate of Marketing or Mass Communications (newly graduates are welcome); Trainable and with good verbal communication skill; Computer literate

SECRETARY

☐ Female, single, 22-25 years old; College graduate, preferably Secretarial Course; Knowledgeable in shorthand writing; Computer literate; With good verbal communication skill; With pleasing personality

Please send your resumé to:

The Sr. Marketing Manager
3rd Floor, EDMARK Bldg.
No. 355 P. Tuazon Blvd., Corner 21st Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. No. 9135515
Email: edmarkhq@info.com.ph

WANTED

ENGINEERS

EDUCATION : B.S. Civil Engineering (BSCE) - Licensed
EXPERIENCE : Four (4) years work experience in building construction quality control, quantity survey and estimating; preferably in government or foreign assisted projects
OTHERS : *Computer literate
*Good Communication skills and can relate well with superiors and subordinates

ARCHITECTS

EDUCATION : B.S. Architecture - Licensed
EXPERIENCE : At least four (4) years experience in building design, quality assurance, preferably in government or foreign assisted projects.
OTHERS : *Computer literate.
*Good Communication skills and can relate well with superiors and subordinates

DRAFTSMEN

EDUCATION : B.S. Architecture/Architectural Drafting
EXPERIENCE : One (1) to two (2) years work experience in drafting/drawing.
OTHERS : *Knowledgeable in auto cadd operations.
*Good interpersonal and communication skills.

NOTE: POSITIONS ARE FOR PROVINCIAL ASSIGNMENTS.

Qualified applicants are requested to bring/send their comprehensive curriculum vitaé with their latest 2x2 colored picture to:

The Human Resources Department
Mohri & P.A. Associates, Inc.
2/F CASMER Bldg.
195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City 1229

Nurses wanted for USA Direct Hire/No Fees

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INTERESTED IN AN EXCITING CAREER WITH US!

Location: ROOM 1904A CENTERPOINT BLDG.
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COR. GARNET ROAD, ORTIGAS CENTER,
PASIG CITY, PHILIPPINES

Tel. 02 631 6124/631 7382 WWW.DELTACAREINC.COM:
CGFNS REQUIRED / WILL REIMBURSE IMMED FOR CGFNS EXAM W/ PROOF OF ACCEPTANCE FOR EXAM IN NOVEMBER 2002
WILL PROVIDE CLASSES AND REVIEWS
JROOZ@DELTACAREINC.COM

Century Park Hotel
AN ANA HOTEL

Is in need of:

BANQUET SALES MANAGER

and

BANQUET MANAGER

- Female, not more than 34 years old
- College graduate preferably in Marketing, Business Management or Hotel and Restaurant Management
- At least four (4) years related work experience
- Personable, charming and aggressive
- Written and verbal facility is a must
- Personable and aggressive with good salesmanship
- Service-oriented, keen attention to fine details
- Knowledge of the hotel's facilities, layout and service standards
- Knowledge of food and beverage, proper service techniques, etiquette of entertaining small and large groups and function room decoration ability is a must

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PERSONALLY THEIR RESUMÉ WITH A RECENT 2X2 COLORED PHOTO AND CERTIFICATES IF ANY, AT:

CENTURY PARK HOTEL
599 Pablo Ocampo Sr. Street, 1004 Malate, Manila
P.O. Box 117, CPO 1099, Manila, Philippines
Tel. (632) 528-8888 • Fax (632) 528-1828
Internet: http://www.centurypark.com
Email: century@globe.com.ph

We are the exclusive affiliate of a worldwide training and consulting organization providing results-oriented training and consulting services to Fortune 500 companies and top Philippine organizations. We have an immediate opening for:

Account Managers

Who

- *Can plan and implement account management strategies with our existing client base, and capitalize/leverage new business opportunities;*
- *Can initiate account development strategies with new client prospects;*
- *Can be a differentiating feature of doing business with existing clients and new prospects through superior consulting and value-added services;*
- *Can become an expert delivery resource for our training systems.*

The candidates we seek should have:

- *A minimum of 3 years sales and/or account development experience*
- *A college degree, preferably from a reputable university*
- *Track record in sales and account development*
- *Excellent communication skills (a must)*

To the successful applicants, we offer:

- *A competitive compensation package, plus a sales incentive and bonus plan;*
- *A car plan; and,*
- *Opportunity to develop management, leadership and professional selling skills.*

Please fax or e-mail your resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

meginc@mkt.weblinq.com
fax 638.6990

Writers, Graphic Designers, Flash, Creative Directors

Needed for US Contracts

A leading US training company requires contractors in Manila to produce online learning programs.

Writers - experience in business training and publications; instructional designers

Graphics - experience in Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator

Cartoonists - Illustrators, drawing designers

Flash Programmers - Vector graphics, audio, data tracking

Creative director - experience with Flash, Web development, story telling, training production.

Applicants must have own PC and high speed Internet connection. Please send email resumés with links to examples of work to **awit@info.com.ph**

For Immediate Hiring

Account Executives (Full Time / Part Time)

- Graduate of Communication Arts, Advertising, Marketing or Business Management.
- Male or Female not more than 30 years old
- One year experience in Sales & Marketing preferred.

Non - Linear Video Editor

- Proficient in Adobe Premiere 6, Photoshop & After Effects.
- Single not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Communication Arts, Advertising or Multimedia Applications.

Attractive Salaries & Benefits

Apply in person, bring your resumé & for editor pls. include reel.
9th Floor, Rm. 922 Cityland Shaw Tower or call
Tel. No. 910-1238

JAVA TRAINER

An IT Development company is seeking to contract services of a Java Trainer for a fixed contract duration (two months). The desired Trainer should have training experience with a reputable training center and/or equivalent certifications. The trainer shall be expected to cover

Java 2 Development
Java Web Technologies and
J2EE

The applicant should have proper certifications as a Sun Certified Java Programmer and/or J2EE Architect.

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resumés, detailing experience and projects to:

c/o Querry Kho
1575 JP Laurel St., San Miguel, Manila 1005

Walk-in applicants shall not be entertained.

Upon review of your qualifications, the company shall forward a description of the expected course topics and outline that shall be covered in the training to be provided by the trainer.

Please include all contact informations in your resumé together with your email address

This is an urgent requirement.

SILANGAN
Communications (Phils.), Inc.
Unit 1814 Cityland Herrera Tower 98 Herrera corner Valero Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City, 1200 Philippines
Tel.: (63)2-893-6437 Fax: (63)2-893-6438

MARKETING ASSISTANTS

- Male or Female, 20-25 years old
- Graduate of any four-year course
- With excellent communication skills
- People-oriented and pleasing personality
- Telemarketing experience a plus

Qualified candidates will undergo training and will receive basic salary plus commission.

Send resumé with 2x2 photo to:

Unit 1814 Cityland Herrera Tower, 98 Rufino corner Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City 1200

or email to: silangan-phils@silangan.com
on or before **September 11, 2002**

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

GALLERIA CORPORATE CENTER
Suite 2102, 21st Floor Robinsons Galleria
Edsa Ortigas Center Pasig
(beside Robinsons Galleria Plaza)

WE NEED:

☑ College graduates of at least 4-year course
☑ 20-40 years old
☑ Persistent, hardworking and mature individuals with pleasing personality
☑ Presently unemployed, ready to undergo comprehensive company training & can work at once
☑ Permanent resident of Metro Manila

BENEFITS:

☑ **A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME**
☑ Company sponsored trips here and abroad
☑ Career growth with automatic promotion system

PLEASE come in PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE with 2 pcs. 2x2 ID pictures and your comprehensive resumé on SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4 & 5, 2002 (Monday to Thursday) from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon; 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please bring 2 VALID ID's and a clipping of this AD.

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

COLLECTION SPECIALIST

- Male
- Accounting graduate
- Not more than 40 years old
- At least 5 years experience in collection and finance
- Computer literate, preferably Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint
- Excellent in oral and written communications
- Excellent interpersonal skills

Interested parties may send their resumé with 2x2 photo, transcript of records to:

Box KA-014-02-CS
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
G/F Trinity Building, 636 T.M. Kalaw Street
Ermita, Manila
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

DESKMAN

- College graduate
- At least 2 years experience in this job or jobs leading to it
- With special training in technical aspect of production layouting
- Knowledge of computer operations

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

- College graduate major in Journalism, English or Mass Communication
- 1 year experience in similar or related job
- Computer skills, communication skills, writing skills, encoding skills, research skills, filing skills
- Knowledge of basic computer operations

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Graduate of a 4 year course preferably with emphasis on Marketing or Mass Communication
- Knowledge of marketing principles and strategies
- Knowledge of basic computer operations

COLLECTION CLERK

- College graduate preferably with background in Finance or Accounting
- 1 year experience in collection work or similar field
- Licensed motorcycle driver (with professional driver's license, restrictions 1 & 2)

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

- Graduate of any Business Course
- Knowledge of ins and outs of Metro Manila

DRIVER

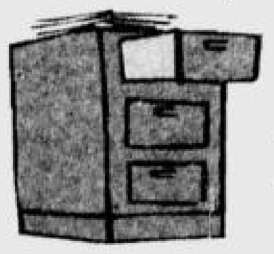
- High School graduate
- Holder of a professional driver's license
- 1-2 years experience in collection work or similar field
- Familiar with city roads, districts & areas
- Knowledge of traffic rules and regulations

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

Drop your resumés NOW!

Visit any of the Inquirer Classified Ads branch and drop your resumés in our new



Resumé Box

We gather your resumés and forward them to companies with employment needs.

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Pasong Tamo Avenue, cor Yague and Mascardo sts., Makati City
897-8808 loc. 514/516 / 897-8425Fax: 897-8425
main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MAKATI BRANCH
G/F Atrium bldg , Makati Avenue, Makati City
811-4361 / 811-4165 / 811-4012Fax: 892-5578
makati_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MANILA
G/F Trinity bldg., T.M Kalaw st., Ermita, Manila
527-3342 / 528-0183 / 527-6357Fax: 528-0213
intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

QUEZON CITY
St. Anthony's Bldg , Aurora blvd., Q.C.
912-9008 to 10 Fax: 912-9011
cubao_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MANDALUYONG
SM Megamall, 5th level, Building B, EDSA
635-0219 / 687-2354 / 687-2366 Fax: 635-0220
sm_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

A Leading Life Insurance Company needs the following Graduates:

CUSTOMER CARE ASSISTANTS

- Male or Female, not more than 28 yrs. old;
- BS Nursing, Physical Therapy, MedTech.

MARKETING ASSISTANTS

- Male, not more than 25 yrs. old;
- any Business course.

SALES TRAINER

- Male, not more than 28 yrs. old.;
- AB Communications, Behavioral Science/ Psychology;

ACTUARIAL ANALYSTS

- BS Applied Math/Statistics (Graduate of UP, DLSU or Ateneo)

BRANCH PERSONNEL

- Male or Female, not more than 25 y. o.;
- BS Accountancy

BENEFITS:
☐ 15 months compensation
☐ Car and housing loans at low interest rates
☐ medical/HMO benefits
☐ retirement benefit at max 2 months gross salary
☐ additional 1 month special performance incentive bonus
☐ and others

Mail your Comprehensive resume with Transcript of Records and 2x2 picture not later than **September 11, 2002** to:

The HRD
MCC PO Box 1681

NISSAN

NISSAN NORTH EDSA BALINTAWAK

The country's most complete Nissan dealer is currently in need of

PROGRAMMER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Male
- 21 to 28 years old
- A graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related course
- With good communication skills
- With at least 1 year programming experience using FoxPro for DOS/ WINDOWS in a network environment.
- Must be knowledgeable on Windows 98/NT/2000 operating systems.
- With Knowledge in basic PC installation and troubleshooting
- Knowledge in Visual Foxpro, Visual Basic and web programming is an advantage

Apply in person with resumé and 1x1 photo at
1174 EDSA BALINTAWAK, QUEZON CITY
Tel. Nos. 3305331 to 50 loc. 216

De La Salle University – Professional Schools, Inc.
Information Technology Center

We are in need of qualified professionals, who are eager to learn & are self-motivated, to fulfill the following positions:

COMPUTER FACILITIES & OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT HEAD

Assigned to manage a data center, network expansion, computer-related HW/SW services, customer care services, & lead the team to complete projects & achieve specific objectives in a LAN-WAN environment with Linux, MS Windows NT/2000, various applications, over 20 servers, & over 10,000 customers.

Qualifications: Degree holder of BS ECE, computer science, or computer engineering; have at least 5 years progressive experience in data center management; must be good in handling multiple projects; knows theories of operating systems & data networks; can do cost-benefit analysis; preferably have experience in IT strategic planning & customer care.

PC/NETWORK ENGINEER

Assigned to do preventive & remedial maintenance of PCs & peripherals; ensure virus control, protection, & extermination; install & maintain PC software & networks; update the record of network nodes; monitor the campus network for traffic, security & other possible problems; & recommend improvements to the efficiency of the campus network.

Qualifications: Degree holder of BS ECE, computer science, or computer engineering; proficient in MS Windows 9x/2000, MS Office, Internet & e-mail; can assemble, troubleshoot, & maintain networked computers, peripherals, network equipment, & various software packages; can use anti-virus software & other tools; knows theories of operating systems & data networks; preferably with at least 2 years progressive experience.

SYSTEMS ANALYST

Assigned to design & develop information systems; prepare program assignment specifications; supervise, coordinate & control systems/software development projects at every stage; prepare test data & perform integration tests on systems under development; prepare project completion & costing reports.

Qualifications: Bachelor degree holder, preferably CS; knows Visual Basic, Visual FoxPro, ASP, Oracle development tools; with specialized training or relevant master's units in programming, systems analysis & design, & project management; preferably, with specialized training in design of Oracle & SQL server databases; has background in accounting principles; preferably, knows computer auditing concepts; at least one (1) year experience in systems analysis & design, & implementation of at least four (4) systems varied in terms of complexity & environment; good in oral & written communication.

TECHNICAL WRITER/WEB DESIGNER

Assigned to write & edit articles for web sites & newsletters, policies, procedures, & standards; maintain web sites; design forms & document fill-out instructions.

Qualifications: Bachelor degree holder; has basic computer background; experienced in editing, writing of articles & other documentation; knows MS Office, Adobe Pagemaker & any web authoring tools; preferably knows desktop publishing, forms design or graphics design; good in oral & written communication.

HELP DESK

Assigned to provide timely & prompt response to customers who request for help &/or service; generate service-related stat reports; write &/or compile relevant articles & updates on the use of computers & software; generate utilization reports on computer resources; provide computer facilities to customers.

Qualifications: Bachelor degree holder; knows MS Office, Internet, e-mail & web browsing; with technical writing skills; preferably, knows PC set-up & configuration; knows problem solving techniques; has customer-relation skills; good in oral & written communication.

If you are interested, please submit an application letter indicating the position applied for, ID picture (1 copy), Curriculum Vitae, & Transcript of Records. Please address the required documents to:

De La Salle University – Professional Schools, Inc.
Human Resources Office
Rm. 213 Gokongwei Building
2401 Taft Avenue, 1004 Manila
delarosad@dlsu.edu.ph

Enhance the BOS in You!

In a gathering of Entrepreneurs like never seen before!

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY SESSION

On Friday, the **6th of Sept. 2002, at Club Filipino, Greenhills from 5 til 9 in the evening**, celebrate the beginning of your independence from having a boss and tiresome 9 to 5 routine. Join us in one of a kind gathering, the New Deal of the Millennium... a new and profitable business deal where you can be the BOSS this time around.

If you

- ✓ are determined to succeed
- ✓ have strong and convincing communication skills
- ✓ have the ability to motivate people into giving top performance
- ✓ have the know how to plan and implement effective marketing strategies
- ✓ have the entrepreneural spirit to sustain a dynamic organization

then you are a perfect candidate for what we have in mind. We are looking for a new breed of young and active entrepreneurs, businessmen and other professionals who will get to handle some of our premier projects to date like Caliraya Springs in Lake Caliraya, the Mulligans Golf Hotel in Boracay, Camp John Hay in Baguio, Canyon Woods and Splendido in Tagaytay and Sherwood Hills in Cavite.

To reserve a seat, come for interview starting August 26 - 31 (Monday to Saturday) from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the address below, or call or e-mail us for registration.

Mark the date. This could make **MILLIONS** for you.

BOOTS C. AQUINO
Fil-Estate Realty Corporation
Mezzanine Floor, Renaissance Tower F, Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No. 631-2715, 636-1673 • Cell No. (0917) 532-3998 • E-mail at fercmolave@yahoo.com

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GRAPHIC/PACKAGING DESIGNERS

To conceptualize and design packaging materials for various consumer products.

- preferably graduates of Industrial Design and Advertising from UP and UST.
- proficient in Adobe and Macromedia software
- ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously with minimum supervision
- willing to render overtime work
- highly creative, honest, reliable

Fresh graduates welcome to apply. Send your resumé and TOR to:

6A Gateway 2000 Bldg.
174 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City

Qualified applicants will be contacted for interview.

URGENT REQUIREMENT:

Deputy Program Manager for Contracts and Administration for a Foreign-Assisted Program - Mindanao

A U.S. consulting engineering company contracted by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the Growth with Equity in Mindanao Program is seeking expressions of interest from individuals applying for the above position.

This is a senior level position for a fixed-term engagement beginning on or about September 2002 through August 14, 2007 with Davao City as the official duty station but with extensive travel throughout Mindanao particularly in the areas comprising the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The work entails contracting for several hundred small and medium scale community infrastructure projects, estimated to cost up to US$25 million, throughout the program's area of coverage, based on the applicable provisions of U.S. Government Federal, and AID Acquisition Regulations (FAR and AIDAR). The individual will function as the program's contracting officer, and will be expected to, with technical advice of civil engineers, handle all aspects of bidding, negotiation, award, and administration of construction contracts, which will be fixed-price in nature and scope. Actual experience in contracting for construction-related projects under U.S. government programs is required. A law or accounting degree is preferred but is not necessarily a requirement. Non-resident individuals will have to relocate to Davao City. Compensation will be based on salary history, equivalent market rates with standard fringe benefit packages.

Interested individuals are requested to submit original copies of their letter of interest, statement of experience and qualifications, and salary history within 5 working days on publication of this ad to the following address: The Louis Berger Group, Inc. Unit 3, 12th flr., ExportBank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue corner Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City 1200. Contact Phone: (02) 812-1647.

Rx MEDICard

MEDICard PHILS INC.

One of the country's leading HMO is looking for assertive, dynamic and energetic individuals to fill up the following vacancies:

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- Male or female. BS Accountancy graduate;
- With at least 1 to 2 years working experience in the same capacity;
- Experience in an HMO or pre-need company an advantage but not a must;
- Must possess strong leadership skills and can relate with all levels within the organization.
- Computer literate.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Preferably male and a graduate of medical course;
- With excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Must be computer literate and willing to do field work.

We also need Registered Nurses, Medical Technologist, X-Ray Technologist, and Physical Therapist

Interested applicants are requested to submit resumé, 2x2 photo and transcript of records at:
Human Resources Department, 5/F Sagittarius Building, H.V. Dela Costa Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Email us at amamatra@medicardphils.com

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FEP PRINTING CORPORATION

(Official Printer of Philippine Daily Inquirer)

Is in need of:

PREPRESS PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

(Code: PPS)

- College graduate with background in computers and/or fine arts
- Familiar with Macintosh/PC environments and Local Area Networks
- Familiar with graphics applications (PageMaker, CorelDraw, Freehand, Photoshop)
- Previous experience in a digital prepress environment is an advantage (PostScript image setting, File Preflight)
- Can work under minimum supervision
- TEAM Player

Qualified applicants are requested to submit comprehensive resumé, 2x2 ID photo and a photocopy of Transcript of Records to:

HRD (Code:______)
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo St. near corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City

Email to: **ailumin@fep.ph**

AMTSI

ALLIED MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.

urgently need

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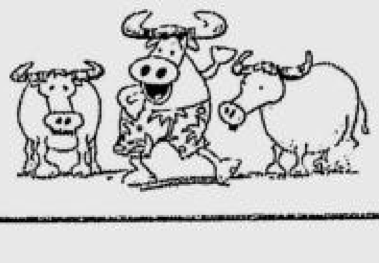

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GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

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SOUTH HARBOR

Will BF Blink?

By Ruel S. De Vera
Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

HE has been called everything from Nazi to Superman, but Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chair Bayani "BF" Fernando continues to ignore accusations and accolades alike. After all, he has a Metro Manila-sized task ahead of him.

It is Fernando, after all, who must unclog the city's arteries, scrub its body clean and make it livable again. When he was appointed MMDA chair in June this year, Fernando seemed a natural for the job. The 55-year-old engineer transformed Marikina from a sleepy shoemaking town dubbed the "Rape Capital of the Philippines" into an innovative, vibrant city. He didn't stop until the city was clean and green enough.

The son of former Marikina Mayor Gil Fernando, he parlayed an initial capital of P6,000 into a thriving construction concern bearing his initials. Unable to resist the pull of government, Fernando was elected Marikina Mayor in 1992 and was handily reelected in 1998 on the results-oriented slogan "BF Gets It Done."

The slogan proved accurate. The two-term mayor soon gained a reputation for being a hard-nosed, high-minded administrator and catalyst, a man possessed of a relentless work ethic and an attitude tougher than his trademark hard hat. "I simply had the courage to say 'no,'" he told SIM in 2000. "People weren't used to a mayor who said 'no.'" It was during this time that he first implemented the then-controversial program of clearing Marikina's sidewalks of all impediments. Despite initial resistance from some sectors, Fernando prevailed in the end. "I am used to people saying it won't work," he said then. "I'm ready for that."

With wife Marides Carlos Fernando succeeding him as Marikina Mayor in the 2001 elections, Fernando became the obvious choice when then-MMDA chair Benjamin Abalos moved over to the Commission on Elections. The streets of Metro Manila have never been the same since. Fernando wasted no time cleaning house at the MMDA, junking the ballyhooed Jancom waste disposal contract for a start and prohibiting left turns on the congested C-5 and Edsa thoroughfares. Such fearless moves must have stoked high expectations of him from high places because soon enough, the city's flood and traffic problems were dumped on Fernando's lap as well.

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

...from page 1

No stranger to controversy, Fernando nonetheless experienced utmost scrutiny with his most recent move: clearing the city's sidewalks at all costs. Undaunted by loud protests from sidewalk vendors, Fernando threatens to pour kerosene on their goods and burn them. Despite protest actions from militant and urban poor groups, Fernando remains unmoved. The campaign, he insists, is not about the vendors. "This will be a total, not a selective, drive in our effort to decongest Metro Manila," he told reporters.

Sitting down with **SIM** at the MMDA headquarters, Fernando dished out talk both tough and thoughtful as he spoke of his long-term plans for the beleaguered Big City:

SIM: Since you were appointed MMDA chair, your responsibilities have expanded to include the city's overall traffic and flood situation as well as the Pasig River. Have your feelings about the job changed?

BF: No. I've had experience in running a city and we were faced with the same problems, but on a smaller scale. Still, the same concepts and solutions would apply so I'm not yet overwhelmed by the problems.

SIM: How much busier are you now compared to the time when you were Marikina Mayor?

BF: I would say it's the same. Then, I was still learning so I was very busy because it was a learning process. Now, it's the scale that's consuming my time. It's a bigger Marikina.

In full force: Fernando stands ready to deploy all of the MMDA's resources (top); militant groups decry his stand on sidewalk vendors (below)

MMDA CZAR B.FERNANDO
CHAIRMAN FERNANDO HINDI TERORISTA ANG MGA VENDOR!!! -SANLAKAS
MARACITANA

DENNIS SABANGAN

SIM: Is it fair to say that you should be able to do for Metro Manila what you did for Marikina?

BF: Yes, it is. Same dynamics, same kind of people, same mindset as any Filipino. It's the same economy that drives people to do those things.

SIM: How are you running the BF companies now that you are heading the MMDA?

BF: Well, I cannot attend to them anymore so we have managers to do the job.

SIM: What adjustments did you have to make when you were appointed to the MMDA?

BF: It's the same thing, I guess. I have not changed. I would say it's more of other people changing because I am already old. You cannot teach an old dog new tricks.

SIM: But that appears to be what you're trying to do. Does it bother you that you have been called "anti-poor" and "anti-human rights" because of your standoff with the sidewalk vendors?

BF: Not at all. When people lack the wisdom or the reason, they resort to this kind of action. They probably cannot imagine what drives me to do those things so they brand me this and that. That's OK. It's understandable. What I feel is not right is for people to think that sidewalk vendors are poor. That is gullibility. In fact, they are not. They are the more gutsy folk. They have the entrepreneurial spirit. So how can they be poor? They are the selected few, so they cannot be poor.

SIM: Should we take it, from this current issue with the sidewalk vendors, that similar resistance to future MMDA actions won't stop you at all?

BF: We cannot stop, now or ever. We cannot ever stop fighting anarchy. Anarchy is the absence of government. We do not want it to be said that during our time, we surrendered government to those elements.

SIM: So you will never surrender?

BF: Never. And that is my duty, and the duty of every Filipino to defend that.

SIM: During the last flash floods, you said you were still putting together your resources to fight the floods, correct?

BF: We didn't have the resources with us at that time. It was only on August 19 that the people from the Public Works Department reported to us. But that I am new is not an excuse. We will do our job.

SIM: The Metro Manila area seems beset by so many problems. How long do you think it will take you to change things?

BF: I'd say it depends on the political situation but it can take us a long time if we cannot get people to react accordingly. These problems can be solved overnight. How? If only people would not buy from sidewalk vendors. Then in a few days, they would close shop and go inside the market. It's not that difficult.

SIM: Aside from the flood problem, you were also recently given full authority regarding the traffic situation. How long would it take before we see a marked change in those areas?

BF: I would say give us six months and probably we can feel some change. In two years, I'd say it would all be in progressive mode. Our drive doesn't end in removing the sidewalk vendors. Basically, the sidewalk program aims to solve two problems: traffic and garbage. Everyone in Metro Manila should know that by now. Why do we seem to be zeroing in on sidewalk vendors? It's not the case. We are clearing the sidewalks all over Metro Manila. All the mayors are clearing as well, sometimes jointly with our forces or on their own. The thing is, we want everyone to get out of the sidewalk, not only in commercial areas but in subdivisions as well because we want the sidewalks to be *sagrado* (sacred). We need to have the consciousness that sidewalks need to be walkable. In many areas, we cannot get homeowners to remove the fences they've put up on the sidewalks. They put them up to prevent others from vending and squatting on those sidewalks. To get homeowners to remove those fences, we have to give them a very acceptable guarantee that nobody can ever put up a shop, vend, or squat on that sidewalk.

SIM: What is your next initiative after the sidewalks?

BF: After removing the vendors and clearing the sidewalks comes the next problem—vehicles taking over those sidewalks. So we have these parking initiatives. We will make sure that motorists respect the sidewalks. That will be next.

SIM: No one stays as MMDA chair forever. What are your political plans?

BF: I cannot run in 2004 if I intend to do well in this office. I have to put at stake my political career so I cannot leave this office without having done something good. I withhold any political plan at this point. I will miss out in the 2004 elections, that's what it all means.

SIM: What is the number one deterrent to your solving Metro Manila's problems?

BF: In any endeavor, it's always the personal interests of people. That's the number one enemy of all.

SIM: What kind of Metro Manila do you envision that would make you say you've done your job at the MMDA?

BF: A city ruled by *urbanidad*, whose residents possess that urbanity.

SIM: You say you haven't changed, but all these headaches—haven't they made you a bit more short-tempered?

BF: My daughter (17-year-old Tala) says she's afraid I won't be as effective as before because I've been smiling too much.

SIM: You've never backed down from anything you faced before. But this is certainly a larger scale, as you mentioned. Are you really confident you will be able to do everything you intend to do here?

BF: I guess I have the clear mandate of the President. She said that what I did in Marikina, I must do for Metro Manila. And with that, I cannot do anything else. I won't let anything stop me.

SIM: Now that you're in charge of the Metro itself, how do you feel about Metro Manila?

BF: Right now, I should not like it because it is wanting in so many things. I am trying, as everyone should be trying hard, to make this a lovable city. As it is now, I would not say that I love it. We need to give room for change.

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Jack's Loft New Age Café is one of the fast-rising chill out places in Libis, Quezon City with its cozy interior, good food and music. It is open from lunch time to late midnight. For reservations, call 421-2048/49.
For more of This Week, see page 7

'SLEAZE, SOFT PORN'

Sex Bomb Girls are clean, good fun? To the teeming majority, they're definitively sleaze, soft-porn, a commodification of women. I wonder what Rina David would say.

RESTY S. ODON
rsodon@edsamail.com.ph

BORING?

I find your Sunday magazine boring, not only this issue but for some months now. I am sorry but everytime I open your section I get disappointed to find nothing interesting to read. Of course it depends on what I expect to read, right? Something analytical, be it political, cultural, etc., gives new information, describes some educational and interesting aspects of Filipino life, etc. Maybe a deeper analysis of what happened in the past week which your newspaper carried. These are vague descriptions but I should say that until a year ago, I always read the magazine before the newspaper every Sunday. Now, not any more.

JUDITH AGNOLETTO
bobo@sienanet.it

Poetry

Ang 'Kasalanan' ng Makata

Tatlong dalit kay Franz

Sa Diyos natin ialay
Kaluluwa ng namatay;
Patawari't kaawaan
Sa nagawang kasalanan.

1
Ang ipukol na salita
Sinasalo ng makata;
Binibihisan ng diwang
Isasapuso ng madla.

2
Ang makata'y parang pithi:
Kahit putik sa pusali,
Naliliripan ng mithing
Maging bato ng gusali.

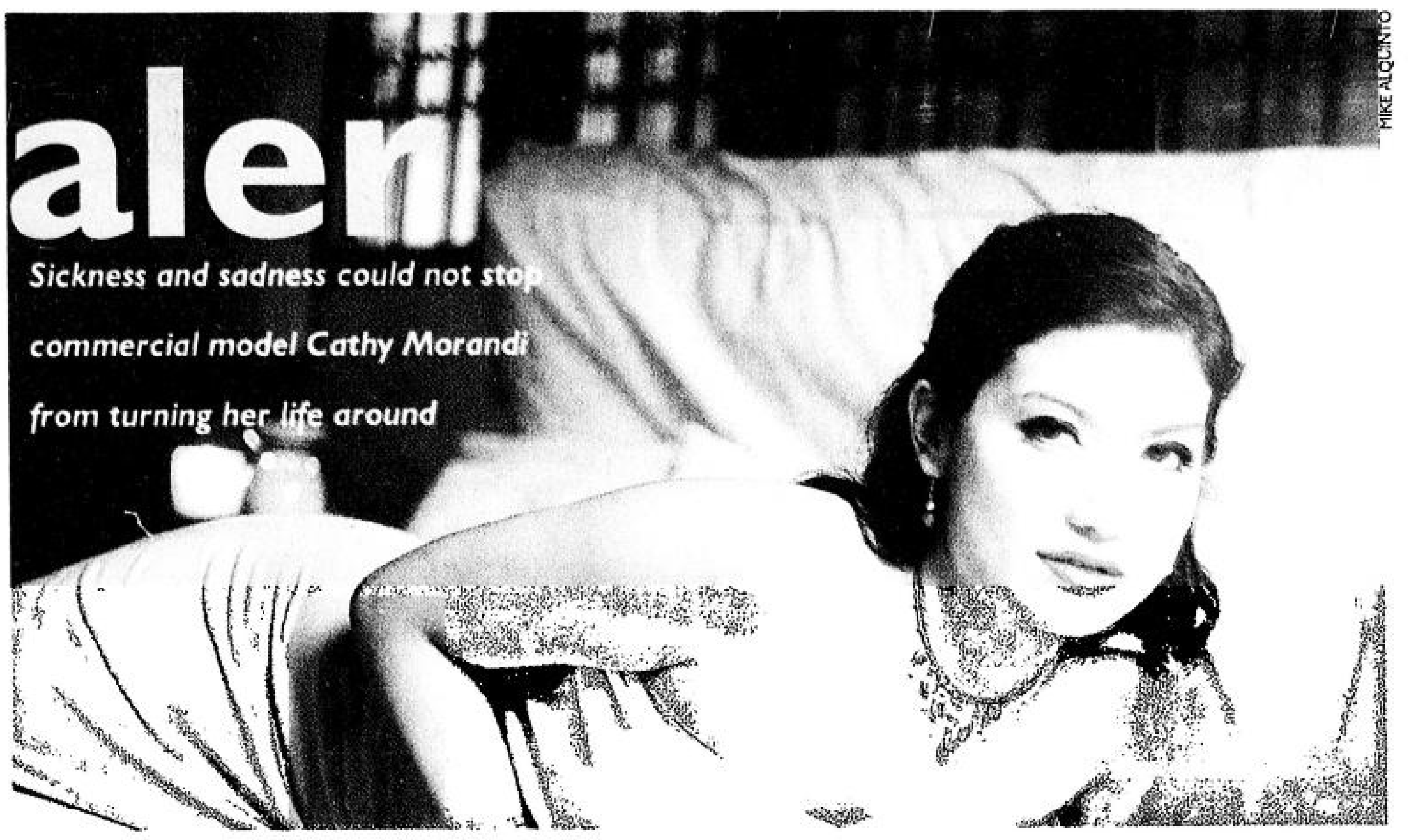
3
Ang salita'y parang bula,
Sambitin mo't mawawala;
Sa mutya mo ay itula,
Habambuhay sa gunita.

Rio Alma

Twists of Fate

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

Model Healer



Sickness and sadness could not stop commercial model Cathy Morandi from turning her life around

MIKE ALQUINTO

TALL and voluptuous, 28-year-old model/actress Catherine Frederika Morandi has been complimented on her looks all her life. Born in Italy, she inherited the best features of her Chinese-Filipino mother and Italian father, an exotic combination that eventually made her the toast of the modeling world.

Morandi has appeared on the covers of such European magazines as Panorama, Cipria and Novella 2000 in Italy, and Das Neue and das Neue Beitte in Germany. She took on TV and film acting roles as well.

Filipinos proved as susceptible to her charms and Morandi easily found work on television, the movies and as print advertisement model whenever she came to the Philippines to visit her parents. Her movie credits include "*Bala at* Lipstick," "*Kapag Iginuhit ang Hatol ng Puso*" and "Comfort Women."

But a storybook love affair gone wrong last year made Morandi realize how fleeting physical beauty can be.

"It was a very passionate affair," she recalls. "We were together all the time and I was happy in my little world." When they broke up, she fell into a deep depression, she adds.

The depression left her with chronic vertigo and a blood pressure that shot up to over 300. She had an epileptic seizure as well and Bell's Palsy, which left half her face paralyzed.

"The doctors could not see any reason why I should be sick," Morandi says. But she wanted to be sick, she adds, and in fact, wanted to die at one point. It came to a point when she even had a strange vision of death coming to claim her while she was in hospital, reveals Morandi. "My whole life scrolled in front of me like a VHS movie set on fast forward and all I could see were my mom, dad and brother. So I begged death to wait a little more just so I could be with the people I love most," she says.

She then started her journey towards healing.

Morandi found salvation on the Internet, a convenient escape because she was ashamed to go out looking the way that she did. Through the Net, she found and got in touch with people who, like her, were suffering from their own problems.

"The story of people that I talked to online made me realize how petty my problems were compared to those of others who did not even have enough to eat. I felt so stupid," Morandi says. The stories gave her strength as people showered her with genuine warmth, she adds.

"I realized that I got myself sick because of stress and unhappiness. If I did that to myself then I can also heal myself," Morandi says.

And she did. After her Bell's Palsy disappeared, she started going out once again, looking as beautiful as ever but with the added glow of someone with a mission to serve others.

Aside from doing charity work, Morandi gives advice on the Net through her inspirational website, *www.super.net.ph/catherine* which contains essays on life, love, hope and social issues. She candidly admits that many men log on to her site to see her glamor photos, but immediately realize that it is not a babe site.

Says Morandi: "I try to help people with their problems in the same way that others helped me when I was sick. I think people feel comfortable talking to me because I'm just a regular person who has made many mistakes in her life."

Morandi has compiled some of the most inspirational of these messages online and published them in a book titled "Connectivity" and subtitled "Virtue in Virtual Reality." A second title, to be launched this July, is titled "Love, Food and Magic," which is about the way food and certain ingredients stimulate senses and stir emotions and also about physical and psychological healing.

"I wish to tell people that there is hope, that we can heal and improve our lives no matter how huge and aggravating our problems are. We can find the strength from within ourselves through faith and love," Morandi says.

She says she continues to receive offers to appear in local movies and to pose for magazines but she no longer considers them as important as she once did.

"First of all, many people talk to my breasts. They do not even look at my face," she laughs.

Morandi says she is happier now and believes she is fulfilling her end of the bargain when she begged death to spare her when she was sick. "I am not perfect, but I am trying my best to keep that promise, and only then can I truly rest."

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If you want to know how this diamond will look on your finger, you can cut out this picture and put it against your hand.

Or you can cut out the Diamond Be Mine entry form, answer the questions pertaining to some of the ads you can find in the Sunday Inquirer Magazine and send it to us for a chance to be one of our 27 weekly winners who would vie for one round brilliant cut diamond set on a 14 karat white gold solitaire ring in our grand draw on November 15, 2002.

PROMO MECHANICS: Diamond Be Mine

1. The promotion is open to readers of Sunday Inquirer Magazine nationwide.
2. For nine (9) consecutive Sundays (from September 1, 2002 to October 27, 2002) every Sunday Inquirer Magazine issue will have an entry form published on the second page asking questions about the advertisers on the Sunday Inquirer Magazine. Each week will feature a different set of questions.
3. Readers are tasked to correctly answer all four (4) questions using the ads that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and affix signature on the spaces provided for in the entry form.
4. Entry forms must be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "Diamond Be Mine" c/o Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Ave. cor Yague and Mascardo Sts., 1231 Makati City. Each completed form serves as a single official entry during which three (3) winners will be drawn every week to receive the following:

   Philippine Daily Inquirer Gift Packs (jacket, mug, umbrella)

5. All entries for the week (provincial and GMA) must be received by 5:00pm Friday of the following week to qualify for the weekly draw to be held every Monday after the submission deadline. Only entries with completely and correctly answered questions are valid.
6. There would be a total of nine (9) weekly draws wherein an individual may send more than one entry but may only win once in every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding draws. All weekly draws and the grand draw will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer Office at 3:00pm in the presence of a DTI representative.
7. Only the twenty seven (27) weekly draw winners will qualify for the grand draw wherein one winner will receive a round brilliant cut diamond set on a 14 karat white gold solitaire ring.
8. Raffle prizes are not convertible to cash.
9. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Names of the weekly winners will be published in the Sunday Inquirer Magazine every week.
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11. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI.
12. Employees and staff of PDI, their advertising agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

WEEK 1

INQUIRER

DIAMOND BE MINE

ENTRY FORM

Questions

1. What is the inspirational website of Catherine Frederika Morandi where she gives advice on life, love and social issues? See feature article on page 3.
2. How many phonebook entries and inbox messages can the SMART 64K Super SIM accommodate? Check out the SMART ad at the back page.
3. According to MMDA chair Bayani Fernando, what are the two problems that the sidewalk program aims to solve? See cover story on page 2.
4. What is the most power-packed simcard in the market today? Check out the SMART ad at the back page.

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sunday INQUIRER magazine GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

• Entries must be received by the PDI by 5 pm of September 6 for the September 9 draw.

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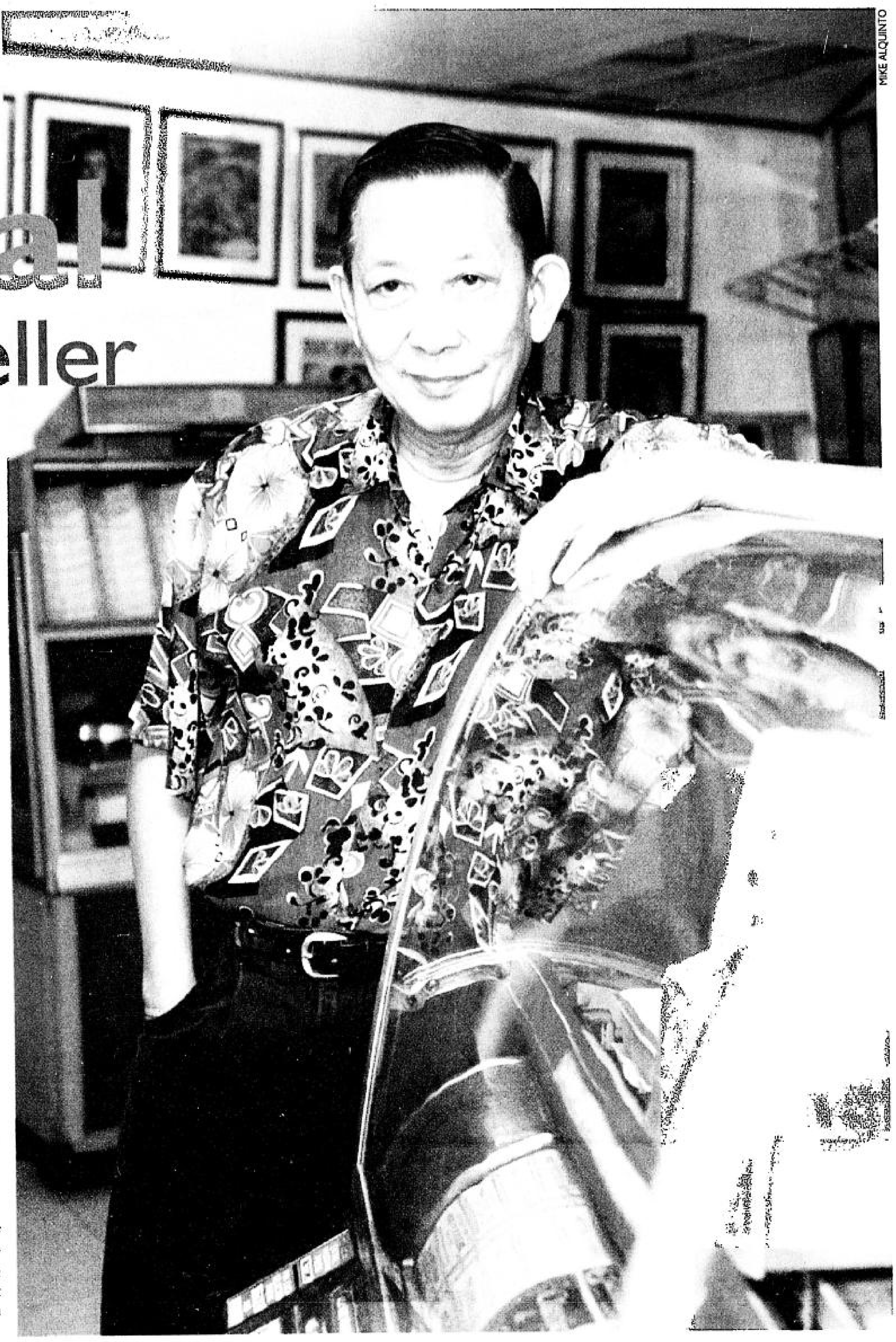
Hallmark

Music Makers
By Eric S. Caruncho

Musical Time Traveller


MIKE ALQUINTO

LISTENING to a Victrola is almost like magic. You turn the crank on the side of the big wooden cabinet, place a 10-inch shellac 78 rpm record on the spindle, lay the big steel needle in the groove and suddenly, through the crackles and hiss, a ghostly voice comes floating back from the mists of time. And you don't have to plug it in, either.

Music is the cheapest form of time travel: nothing takes you back faster than an old song. It can even make you nostalgic for eras you never experienced.

Tucked behind a flower shop in an unassuming corner of UP Village in Quezon City is Yesteryear. The sign says it is a "music gallery and café," but actually it is a portal into that lost dimension we call the past.

The shelves carry row after row of vinyl records: everything from Enrico Caruso and Bing Crosby to Joni James and Connie Francis, not to mention long-forgotten mambo orchestras, Hawaiian serenaders, comedy acts and other faded pop stars. There are CDs and cassettes, too—a rare concession to the 21st century.

But pride of place goes to the Filipiniana collection, where Victor Wood and Eddie Peregrina rub shoulders with Ruben Tagalog and Sylvia la Torre. Nora Aunor shares space with Pilita Corrales, and the Mabuhay Singers coexist happily with the New Minstrels.

When Yesteryear proprietor Nestor Vera Cruz retired from the banking industry in 1996, he thought he would have a little more time to devote to his hobby of collecting records. But hobbies have a way of getting out of hand, and soon he was digging through dusty basements in Tondo looking for old Gramophones and Victrolas, combing Angeles and Olongapo for working Seeburg and Wurlitzer jukeboxes, and amassing tons of vinyl.

When passion turns into obsession, it's time to open a shop. Three years ago, Vera Cruz turned his front parlor into Yesteryear, "the home of vintage music."

"I was challenged because we don't have any archives of Tagalog music," he says. "I thought that it would be unfair for present and future generations to be deprived of the chance to hear the music of the '50s, '40s, '30s and even the '20s. It gives me great pleasure to revive the music of long-forgotten artists."

Vera Cruz says he sometimes feels like an archeologist, excavating ruins for clues to the past. And when he makes a spectacular find, it can be just as illuminating.

"To the best of my knowledge, the earliest Filipino to make a recording was a certain Maria Carpena from Sta. Rosa, Laguna, approximately in 1910," he says.

Vera Cruz's most prized artifacts are a clutch of 78s that include Atang de la Rama's recording of "Kamuning" for Columbia Records made, he reckons, some time in the late '20s or early '30s; and "*Anong Sarap ang Umibig*," recorded by soprano Leonora Reyes with Florentino Tapia's orchestra for RCA Victor records around the same time.

"I was also lucky enough to have been able to tape some of the early recordings of Ruben Tagalog, 78 rpm singles on the Rego label," he adds with a collector's glee.

Recordings made after the war are a little easier to find, and Vera Cruz feels that the '50s were the golden age of Tagalog music. Manuel Villar Sr. had established the Manila Recording Company, which later became Villar Records, and had begun pressing records locally. Artists, among them Ruben Tagalog, Alfredo Larosa, Rosita de la Vega and Sylvia la Torre had briefly flourishing careers.

One of Vera Cruz's most sought-after artists is the Pasig-born Emiliano Cruz, the "King of the Kundiman," of whom very little is known. Cruz recorded his own compositions such as "*Isang Ngiti Mo Lamang*" and "*Ako'y Isang Dukha*," but copies are extremely hard to find.

Vera Cruz is also obsessed with looking for records made by Arico Pola, an Italian tenor who spent six months in the Philippines in the early '50s and recorded songs like "*Dating Sumpaan*" and "*Pakiusap*," sung in perfect Tagalog. According to Vera Cruz, Pola became one of Luciano Pavarotti's mentors.

Local recordings were pressed in small runs, sometimes as few as 200 copies. And, then as now, record companies cut costs by recycling the master tapes, as well as unsold copies returned by the stores. For all intents and purposes, the records themselves are the only artifacts remaining.

Unfortunately, the artists themselves seldom keep track of their own work. One time, Yesteryear had an unexpected visit from the late Diomedes Maturan, who was looking for a copy of his hit "Rose Tattoo." Other artists have a similar plight, and even relatively prolific ones like Sylvia la Torre do not have copies of all their records. More recent recordings, such as Pinoy rock albums by '70s bands Juan de la Cruz and Anakbayan, are extremely rare and much sought-after by collectors.

So when Vera Cruz manages to unearth some previously-unknown record by a Filipino artist, one more piece is added to the puzzle. We may never get to see the complete picture, but for many collectors, the thrill is in imagining what might have been.

> *Like an archeologist, Nestor Vera Cruz digs up old vinyl records for clues to the past that would give younger generations a taste of pre-war local music*

Vera Cruz had planned to do an exhaustive study on the history of recorded music in the Philippines, but the project had to be shelved following the sudden death of his chief researcher. He believes the government should exert some effort in building an archive of recordings, since these are an important part of our cultural heritage. These should then be remastered and made available on CD. Until then, Yesteryear will have to serve that purpose.

"Sometimes, young musicians come here with no idea of what kind of music we had," says Vera Cruz. "Then they hear the songs of Atang de la Rama and Jovita Fuentes, and they are enlightened. They realize that we had good music then, and they are challenged to make better music today." Q

Yesteryear is at 87 Maginhawa St., UP Village, Quezon City. Telephone: 436-6951.

LoveNotes
By Joe D' Mango

Leaving Behind the Life of a Mistr

Out of love for him, I could have remained his mistress. But I wasn
son to take care of. I had to think of his future

Dear Joe,

My story began when I was halfway through nursing school in Cebu. I was no longer living with my parents, so I took a job as a receptionist at one of the prominent hotels in the city to pay for my apartment. Since I was both working and studying, I made sure that my shifts would not interfere with my classes. I enjoyed my job. I like dealing with different people. I was even able to see a few famous people. Above all that, it was through this job that I met him.

I found him very handsome the first time I saw him. He was in his late 30s but looked as if he was in his late 20s. He was part of a family that owns buildings in Makati, and I even remember seeing a picture of him and his wife in one of the magazines in the lobby. My co-workers always talked about him, partly because he's handsome, but mostly because he has a reputation of being a player.

Though he frequented our hotel whenever he's in Cebu, I was a new face to him. He went out of his way to introduce himself to me when he checked in. And every time he left the hotel, he made sure to pass by my desk and greet me.

I thought then that he was just a charmer. Little did I know that he had been inquiring about me. One day my superior called me to his office. I thought they had received a complaint about me. But all he did was to give me a warning: Mr. Player was interested in me. I was so naive. I didn't know why my supervisor warned me.

Mr. Player courted me for months. When he was in Manila, he would have flowers sent to my apartment almost every day. When he was in Cebu, which became often, he would ask me out to dinner at the fanciest places. He treated me like a princess. I enjoyed his company very much. Falling in love with him was inevitable.

A year later I allowed myself to
to leave my job and my studies be
to go to Manila with him. He alre
do unit. My parents were opposed
but nothing could change my

In our unit, I felt I was his wife
everything. I was pampered with
made sure that I was happy And I
his mother and sisters knew ab
agree with his affairs, but since
they were willing to accept me. Li
we had fun with our "married" life
were, the more careless we bec
wife found out about us.

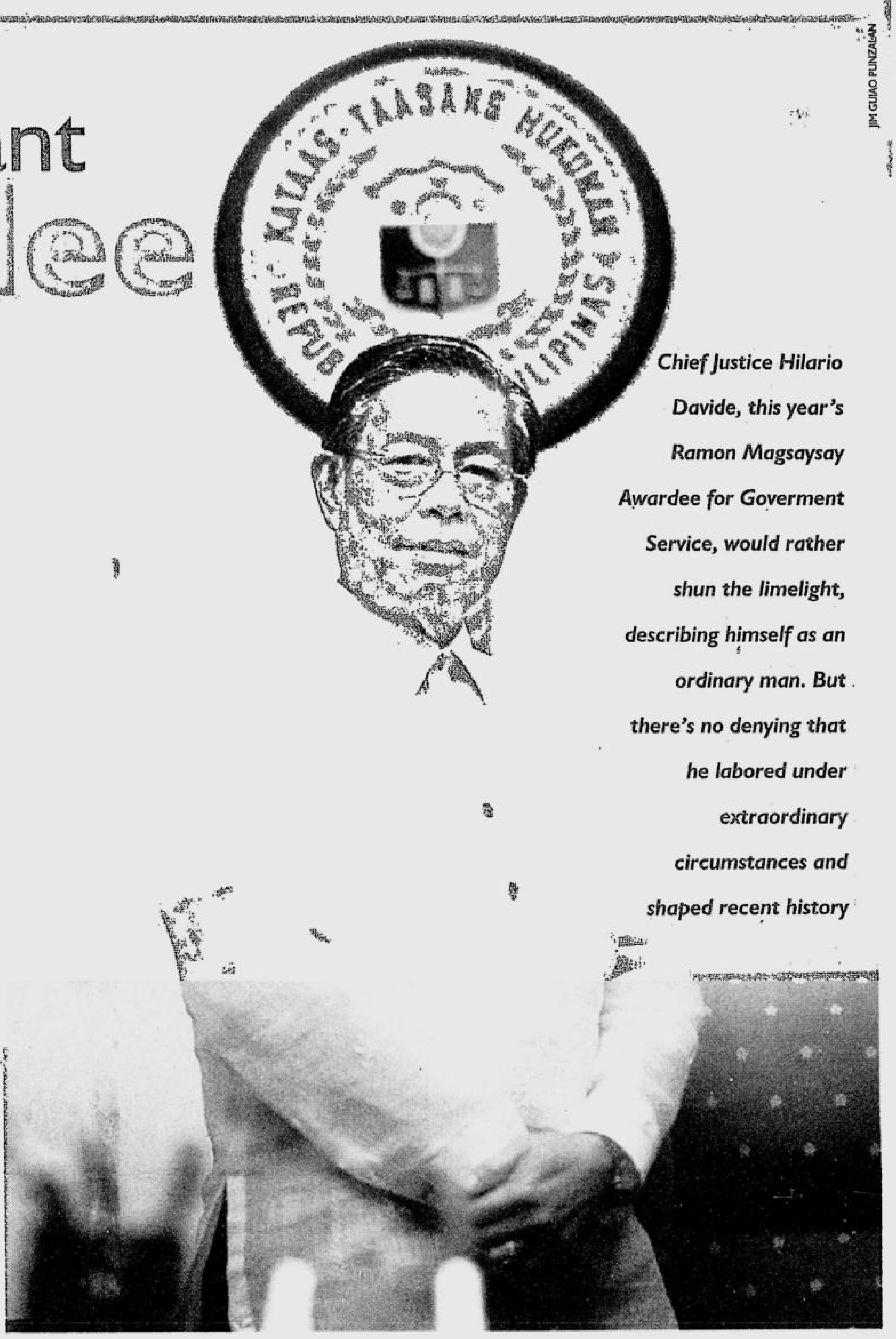
It was only then that I felt I wa
her sources, and eventually foun
staying. She would send me note
She also found out my cellphone
sure I wouldn't have peace of mi
to take a break from everything
for a while.

When we got back to Manila,
airport. It was the first time we
could see the rage in her face. a
her. Before she could cause a sca

Eventually I had to change my
dress. We sold our unit and trans
Because of the airport incident. he
me. Though he would call me eve

Movers and Shakers
By Gerry Lirio

The Reluctant Awardee


JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Chief Justice Hilario Davide, this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Goverment Service, would rather shun the limelight, describing himself as an ordinary man. But there's no denying that he labored under extraordinary circumstances and shaped recent history

LIKE Mandela who once demurred that he is just an ordinary man who became a leader because of extraordinary circumstances, Chief Justice Hilario Davide is as reluctant to be singled out for accolades.

When the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation sent word that the 67-year-old justice has been named an awardee for government service, Davide expressed not just surprise, but discomfort at the prospect of having to face the public he held in thrall at the impeachment trial of former President Joseph Estrada.

Sought for an interview on the award weeks later, Davide shot back: "Why me? That is self-promotion. The media should interview the RM Foundation and ask why it was giving me the award."

A reluctant awardee, Davide thinks that any award would box him in a corner. "It makes people expect so much from you," he worries.

But in fact, people have been expecting much from him since he presided over the televised impeachment proceedings against Estrada. There, he was not exactly an ordinary man in extraordinary times. He was a David taming the rambunctious Goliaths of the legal profession.

There at the height and heat of the trial, "there were fears of violent confrontations; of interventions from the right, of anarchic upheavals from the left," according to a newspaper account. Named by the INQUIRER as Filipino of the Year in January 2001, Davide was hailed for his judicious handling of the trial that allowed the rule of law to prevail. The rest, as they say, is history.

Like wine, Davide gets better with time, observe those who know him well. He was sharper during the trial than he was when he chaired the 1989 coup fact-finding commission and later, the Commission on Elections.

Davide has also been compared to other bright stars in the legal circles in government, among them Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee and Sandiganbayan Justice Francisco Garchitorena, both of them known for their intellectual arrogance inside and outside the courtroom.

In contrast, Davide has been known to keep himself under control whether he is dealing with suspects or victims, or even *compañeros.* Apart from praying for serenity, he is able to do it, Davide says, because he always reminds himself of his humble beginnings. Poverty is a great humbling experience, he adds.

Born Dec. 20, 1935 in Colawin, Argao, Cebu, Davide is one of seven children of Hilario Davide Sr. and Josefa Gelbolinago, both public school teachers. He attended public schools, walking many kilometers to school and harboring no disdain for the roads he had trudged nor those still ahead.

Davide studied law at the University of the Philippines where he was a member of several honors societies. Elected to the Constitutional Convention in 1971, he returned to private practice when President Marcos declared martial law.

After the fall of the Marcos dictatorship, President Aquino appointed Davide to the 1986 Constitutional Commission that drafted the present Charter. She would later appoint him to head the 1989 coup fact-finding commission and later, the Comelec.

For Davide, the Comelec appointment marked the day he buried his career as politician, preferring to keep his private life private because, he says, an officer of the court should be more circumspect to live and lead by example.

On Jan. 24, 1991, Aquino appointed Davide associate justice of the Supreme Court. In 1998, President Estrada appointed him Chief Justice because "he had the best track record." Little did the former movie actor know that his appointee would someday be his nemesis.

Yesterday, Davide received the Ramon Magsaysay Award, mindful of the fact that people expect much from him. In fact, there are people who want him to become the country's next president. But Davide says he harbors no presidential ambitions and given the choice, would rather skip the public's attention.

Davide is not alone, says Jaime Augusto Zobel, chair of this year's RM Awards Board of Trustees.

All the other RM awardees—Ruth Pfau, a Catholic nun in Pakistan, Dr. Cynthia Maung of Burma, journalist Bharat Koirala of Nepal, Pomnyun Snim, a Korean Buddhist monk, and Sandeep Pandey, of India, shun media attention. Some of them think that they fall short of the award. Their accomplishments, done without fear or fanfare, bring to the world inspiring news and lessons on greatness and humility.

It is one of life's great ironies that only those who have humbled themselves before others become great.

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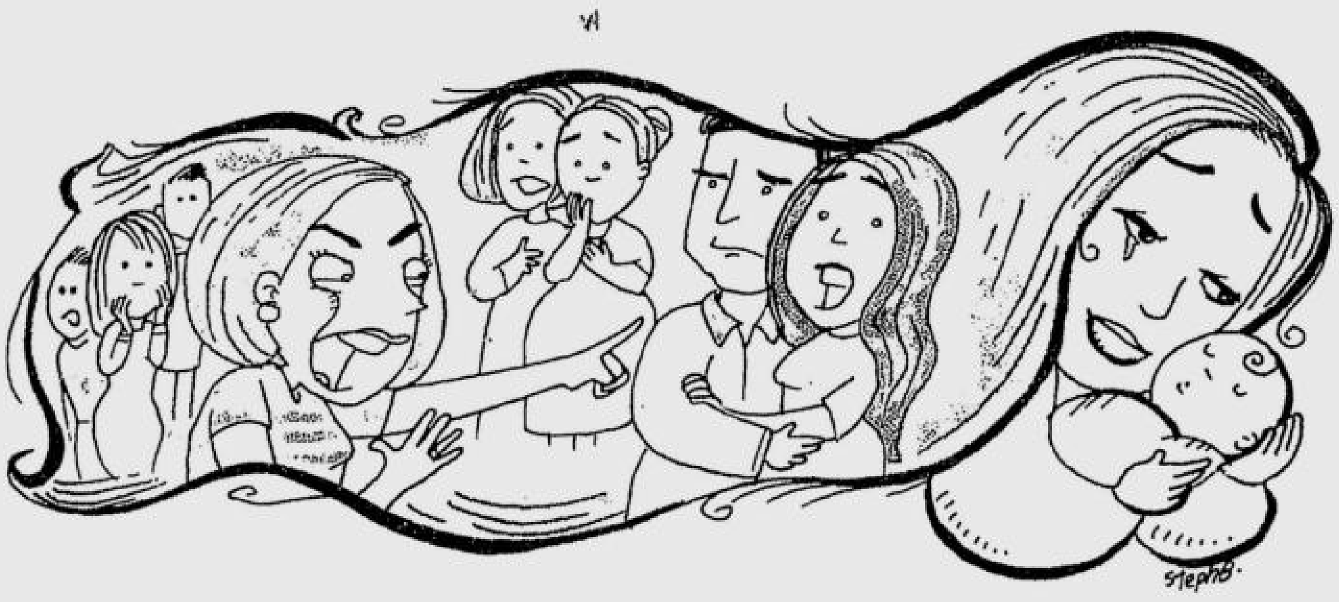

Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

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He provided me with
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And the happier we
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a mistress. She had
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erred to a new one.
spent less time with
y day, he had a hard
time escaping his wife's watchful eyes. He said he tried to file for divorce, but she wouldn't let him. He said we should lie low for a while. I was five months pregnant then.

His mother made up for his absence. She made sure that I went to my check-ups and even gave me one of her househelp to make sure I was properly cared for. For the next four months, I was cared for, but something was missing. He did visit me once in a while, but not often enough. He did give me enough money, but he was not always there. I didn't need his gifts. I needed his love. I needed him.

I gave birth to a son. My son was a blessing to me. I now had someone to love, and who I can call mine. His mother and sisters always visited us. The baby was such a charming and handsome boy. He looked so much like his dad. And his father was ecstatic! Luckily his wife had business to take care of somewhere, and so he was free to be with us for a long time. He loves his boy dearly. I felt his love for me again. And just when I thought all would be well, someone had to burst my bubble. During the baptism, she came. She ruined everything. She threatened us all. I had enough. I had to do something for the sake of my boy. With his mother's permission, I left. I had enough money in my bank account to start a new life with my baby. Out of love for him, I could have remained his mistress. I could have endured all the hiding, all the torment I was getting from his wife, and all the pain, just out of love for him. But now I wasn't alone, I had my son to take care of, I had to think of his future. He didn't deserve that life.

My son is now turning four. I was able to continue my studies, and have accepted a job in the US as a caregiver. We leave next year. I am very happy with my life right now; my son is my pride and joy. I still get financial support from his family, but that is all I allow. I heard that his wife is pregnant, and that he now has a new mistress.

We are often blinded by love that we forget ourselves. Motherhood made me realize my mistakes. I'm still young and I still have a lot ahead of me. I have moved on. I have not lost hope. Someday, someone will give me the love I deserve. Someday, I will have my own family. But right now, I have my son and he has me. That is all that matters.

Nica

Dear Nica,

Thank you for sharing your story. I'm sure many of us, in one way or another, have been witnesses to infidelity not only in our own relationships but in others as well. Why do people get into illicit affairs even if they know that it can have very costly repercussions? How can we betray people we vowed to love and serve forever? How can we allow ourselves to be part of a family that is already complete? These are questions that may have a million answers, answers that can be right or wrong depending on how we view life and how we give value to our relationships.

The greatest mistake we'll make in a relationship is when we look at somebody else other that our partner to satisfy our emotional and physical needs. The second mistake is when we consciously allow ourselves to be the object of these emotional and physical desires.

Families are broken and children suffer because many of us take part in this game of chance. We play with fire and hope we don't burn ourselves. Our selfish actions take its toll on innocent people who get tangled in the web of deceit that we weave around ourselves. There is no justification for selfish lies and outright infidelity.

Nica, no one can wash his hands clean. We all make mistakes. You did. But that is not what is important. What matters is that you have learned and you have become a better person because of them. What matters is that you have made one step forward to turn away from what is wrong and move on to build a life with your son and someone deserving in the future. Then you can be proud to say that you have a family you can call your own.

Thank you for sharing your experience with us. Good luck and God bless you always.

Artwatch

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

Keeper of the Trust

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

SHE describes herself as "the self-appointed bad guy in the Cultural Center board of trustees," the scapegoat on whom all blame must fall should tough calls need to be made.

It's a role she fully accepts, says former CCP counsel Lorna Patajo Kapunan. "The other members of the Board can debate for hours on stage lighting or the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. They're artists. But I'm here to give the Board a sense of detachment and balance, and to look after the interests of the institution."

Lately, those interests have been gravely threatened, with the government cutting more than P200 million from the already lean CCP budget.

Notes Kapunan: "If we have to ask the bike rental guys or the squatters to move out so we can lease the land and earn some revenue for the Center, I'm there to assume responsibility for the decision."

Kapunan's reputation for toughness is easy enough to believe. Reportedly the highest paid female lawyer in the land, she has handled and won some of the most controversial cases in the country, including that which involved a sexy starlet molested by three noontime show hosts who subsequently issued a public apology. By Kapunan's own account, she is a "fierce litigator," someone who inspires fear and awe even in her home turf such that younger colleagues have been known to tiptoe around her.

"Soon enough, of course, they'd realize I'm really *pusong mamon* (I'm a softie)," says Kapunan of her bristling exterior. Indeed, this lawyer made the grade early in her career for her deft handling of a high-profile rape case in 1979.

"She was 13 or 14," she says of the high school student who was strolling with her boyfriend at the CCP complex one early evening. Caught kissing by the Pasay City police and unable to give in to their mulcting demands, the young couple was detained. "She was raped and her boyfriend was made to watch," Kapunan says of the case. Fortunately, the girl, the daughter of cigarette vendors, reported the abuse. For five years, recalls this then young lawyer for ACCRA, the hearings went on, with the two Pasay police under detention but viciously whispering threats in her ear every time they were in court. "'Be careful,' they would warn me. *Marami kaming kilala sa labas.*" Meanwhile, the girl's father would gratefully slip Kapunan a case of Philip Morris after each hearing, her lawyer's fees. Fortunately, the sentence was handed down before smoking could do her real harm.

"The two cops were sentenced to life terms," recalls Kapunan. Although the girl stopped going to school because of the stigma, the story has a happy ending, she adds. It turns out the girl has a good voice and was able to go to Japan as a legitimate cultural worker. "Soon enough, she found and married a Japanese man and they still live in Japan," Kapunan says, beaming.

Despite her formidable reputation as a topnotch lawyer and the numerous awards she has received for her advocacy work on women's issues, Kapunan complains good-naturedly that she has seldom been known for herself.

"People hear my name and gush, 'oh, you must be the wife of (RAM stalwart) Red Kapunan, this computer programmer whose walkout during the snap elections helped EDSA 1 happen.' Or, they'll say, 'you must be the wife of (Supreme Court) Justice Santiago Kapunan.' Or the daughter of retired Justice Lino Patajo." Red, she corrects, is a brother-in-law, the sibling of her husband Eduardo Kapunan, a regional trial court judge in Guagua, Pampanga until his death last year. Justice Santiago Kapunan is a first cousin-in-law.

So what's a topnotch lawyer like Lorna Patajo Kapunan doing in the board of the Cultural Center? Separating the arts from politics and playing official fall guy, she says

Such ties could easily lead her to the corridors of power, but Kapunan would be the first to eschew politics in her new role in the CCP board. "We really should insulate arts and culture from politics," she says, recalling how the previous administration viewed the Center's board seats as spoils, resulting in two embattled sets of directors.

The CCP's current board is composed of chair Baltazar Endriga, an accountant, director Behn Cervantes, lawyer Eduardo De Los Angeles, arts manager Nestor Jardin, former college dean and now entrepreneur Paz Lagdameo, Lina Litton, gallery owner Teresita Luz, broadcaster Ruperto Nicdao, voice teacher and performer Irma Potenciano, psychology professor and activist Patricia Sison and lawyer Bel Derayunan. Kapunan describes them as "a crazy batch who indulges in a passionate exchange of ideas spiced with earthy jokes; everyone is *maginoo pero medyo bastos*," she laughs, quoting a song.

Despite the irreverence, she adds, "one can feel their sense of commitment, or how else can you explain all that perky discussion usually from 12 noon to 6 p.m. no matter if the per diem is only P900?"

Declares Kapunan who sits on the board of several top 500 corporations in the country: "This is the board I'm most comfortable with. It has given me a vision of what to do and the determination to do it. And I'm not embarrassed to make mistakes along the way."

Not that there's much of a chance for that. Kapunan, 50, and president of the Women's Business Council, a group of women-owned and women-led businesses, comes from a family of overachievers. Her father is a retired Supreme Court justice, while her mother, Cristeta Patajo, was the Vice President of Academic Affairs at the United Doctors Medical Center before she retired. Her two brothers, Domingo and Jose, are a retired banker and doctor, respectively, while her only sister Priscelina P. Legasto is AVP at the University of the Philippines.

Except for several speakers rigged by her father all over their home and from which would ensue endless strains of symphonies, Kapunan recalls a normal childhood free from academic pressures.

"On Sundays we'd go to Clover to watch my mom's favorite, Diomedes Maturan, perform," she recounts. "Then we'd troop to nearby Central Market for some *pancit palabok* and *halo-halo*. It was wonderful!"

She is as relaxed in raising their five sons, aged 28 to 7, says Kapunan. "My husband had only two rules: Do your best and never break a promise." She adds impishly, "Of course, he had a supplementary rule: never make your mother cry and that just about covers everything—no drinking, no drugs, don't get any girl pregnant, and so on."

Family has always been her priority, she says, which is why she considers most difficult the Ilusorio case where she represents the old man Potenciano. "It's so sad when a family is wracked by disputes over wealth," she muses. "That's why the best thing you can leave your children is not wealth but education, and the capacity to support themselves."

A staunch advocate of women's rights, Kapunan cites her late husband as being partly responsible for her NGO involvement. "It's my way of thanking him for giving me the space to do what I want and that really empowered me. I want other women to feel just as empowered," says this TOWNS awardee for Corporate Law.

Kapunan met her husband in the tennis court when she was still in law school. His death of colon cancer last year left her devastated. "He felt better after surgery and delayed his chemotherapy. And then it was too late," she says. Worse was to come. In February this year, their then six-year-old son was diagnosed with leukemia. "He's seven now and bald because he's undergoing chemotherapy. But he's still top in his class at La Salle Greenhills," says the proud mother.

She remains dry-eyed recounting the double tragedy, but confesses that she went through the "Why, me?" phase as well. "Fortunately, I'm in touch with my spirituality," she adds. Reading at bedtime, a habit, has helped too. "I particularly like 'Tuesdays with Morrie' where the character says that 'death ends life but it does not end a relationship.' "

Work has been therapeutic and Kapunan especially relishes being appreciated for being "a darn good lawyer," and gender be hanged.

Being a good lawyer, Kapunan says she won't hesitate to represent unpopular clients and take on controversial cases, even former President Estrada's plunder case. "It is my duty to defend and not to judge. And it seems to me that Erap, like other defendants, needs one heck of a good lawyer."

She's not into politics, she repeats, but she wouldn't mind being the country's next woman president, says Kapunan with a straight face. "I think I can do a better job. But then again, I want to be appointed, not elected." And that's why, she adds with a hearty laugh, such dream remains strictly a fantasy. Q

The CCP marks its 33rd anniversary this Sept. 8.

Poetry

Texticles

Sometimes words play trick or treat
Their gnomic, mischievous smiles are helixes
Unskeined
On my blank page;
But when
They do emerge from their cryptic tunnels
They are Midas' herd, silvered, gossamer
Like a kiss, wet, on my seared skin.

Sometimes my pen salivates; I understand the urge
But not the deft interplay of dark and light—
Why tether them to my finite fancy
When boundless are their virile selves?
For bowdlerized, they are sterile witnesses
To unnamed tendencies
That cramp my brain;
With burning wings, otherwise, they flap
Across my skull's firmament...
Wait, brood, sleep, decay:

And what else would melt
The guilt and sting they bring?

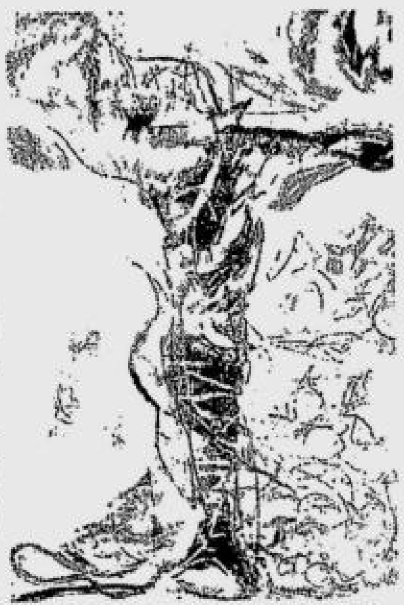
Joe Bert G. Lazarte

This Week

Art

Larawan ng Panahon features Benny Buendia's 16 recent works in oil highlighting the beauty and color of Nature, until Sept. 16 at Galeria de las Islas, 3/F, Silahis Center, 744 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila.

Two Makers, a two-man exhibit of large paintings done in oil and steel sculptures of female nudes and horses by Grace Marie Kalaw-Katigbak and Royston Taylor, opens Sept. 7 at Hiraya Gallery, UN Avenue, Manila. For details, call 523-3331.



"Flying Man" by Grace Katigbak at the Hiraya Gallery

Outback Heart, photographic images of the Australian outback by James Gatehouse until Sept. 13 at the Australia Centre, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

Pinto Art Gallery located at 1 Sierra Madre St., Grand Heights, Antipolo City features 14 visual artists in a group show, **Reflecting Skin**, until Sept. 14.

My Favorite Things, an exhibit of still life paintings in acrylic by Phyllis Zaballero at the Galleria Duemila, SM Megamall A until Sept. 15.

Betis Crafts: Exquisite Handcarved Furniture, an exhibit of world-class furniture and accessories for homes and offices, until Sept. 20 at the Ugnayan Hall of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Gil Puyat Avenue cor. Makati Avenue, Makati City. For details, call 815-0904.

Middens, a suite of wall-bound works by Roderico Jose Daroy at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City until Sept. 18.

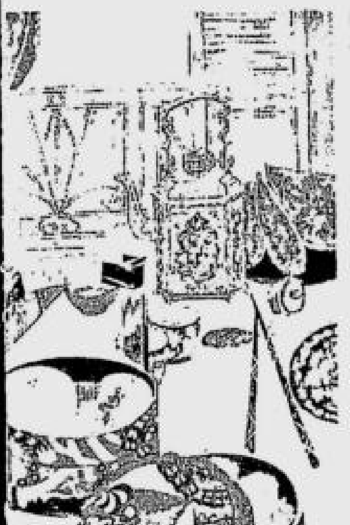
Variations of the Color Red features 16 digital reproductions of paintings by Phoenix at the Small Works Gallery, Ayala Museum, Makati from Sept. 10-30.

Music

Lagi Kitang Naaalala, a musical tribute to National Artists Lucio San Pedro, Levi Celerio and Atang dela Rama featuring the CCP resident companies and special guest artists, Sept. 6, 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. at the CCP Main Theater. Tickets available at Ticketworld outlets in National Bookstore and Tower Records.

This September, **Concert Nights at the Old Walls** features Gary Granada back to back with Jolina Magdangal (Sept. 7, 6 p.m.) at the Punta Baluarte de San Andres; Philippine Baranggay Folk Dance Troupe (Sept. 14) at the Puerta Real Gardens; the Bukas Palad Chorale of Ateneo de Manila University (Sept. 21); and the Philippine Normal University Kislap Sining Dance Troupe (Sept. 28). Admission is free. For details, call 527-2192 loc. 602-604.

The **Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra** will perform with noted conductors and guests artists as it begins its series of concerts this year at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. On Sept. 13, PPO will present "Ode to Joy," a commemoration of Ludwig van Beethoven's 175th death anniversary featuring his works "Coriolan Overture" and Symphony No. 9 with soprano Aileen Espinosa-Cura, alto Agnes Barredo, tenor Nolyn Cabahug and bass baritone Lawrence Jatayna as soloists, the UE Chorale, AUP Ambassadors and the Unida Ecumenical Chancel Choir. For details, call the PPO office at 831-3114 or 832-1128 loc. 1608.



"Macau" by Phyllis Zaballero, on exhibit at the Galleria Duemila

Ramon "RJ" Jacinto and his new group sizzle every Friday till November at Edsa Shangri-La's Lobby Lounge. For reservations, call 633-8888 ext. 2738.

Cinema

Pelikula at Kultura 2, a travelling film exhibition, makes the rounds in schools and universities. The program consists of a symposium on Philippine cinema, a film appreciation seminar, film and video screenings of classic and contemporary Filipino films, and a lecture-demonstration on acting. It begins on Sept. 2 with screenings and lectures at the NCCA auditorium for students of Letran, Mapua, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, De La Salle University and the Philippine Normal COllege. On Sept. 15, Pelikula at Kultura 2 will be brought to the University of the Philippines-Cebu City. For inquiries, call 527-2209 and 527-2217.

Onstage

The Far Eastern University will stage a dramatic reading of a twinbill of one-act plays—excerpts from Eugene Ionesco's **"The Chairs"** and Rustica C. Carpio's **"I Can See You"**—on Sept. 2, 3:15 p.m. at the FEU Auditorium. On Sept. 18 and 19 at 10:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m., "Calamba: 1888" presented by the PUP College of Arts, returns to the FEU stage to relive the last moments of National Hero Dr. Jose P. Rizal with his family before he returned to Europe. Admission to all performances is free. For details, call 735-5621 loc. 256.

Natyanjali, a dance concert by the UP Dance Company presenting glimpses of the rich dance heritage of India, Sept. 5, 6 p.m. at the UP Abelardo Hall Auditorium. Following this concert is "Bachabend (An Evening with Bach)" on Sept. 12. Tickets available at the UP College of Music Administration or call 929-6963.

Drakula, the gripping suspense thriller shrugs off all those fanged blood-sucking spoofs and restores real tragedy to Bram Stoker's immortal classic. Translated to Filipino by Ian Lomongo featuring the Tanghalang Pilipino actors at the CCP Tanghalang Aurelio V. Tolentino from Sept. 6-22. For inquiries, call 832-3661 or 832-1125 loc. 1620.

Food

The Richmonde Hotel's Exchange Bar offers scrumptious **pica-pica selections** to complement its offering of relaxing drinks and soothing live music. Favorite choices are The Richmonde Sizzling *Sisig*, Spicy Tofu Triangles and The Exchange Platter composed of Flat Wontons, Barbecue Wings, Shanghai Rolls and Prawn Crackers. For details, call 638-7777 ext. 3408.

Visit the Yurakuen Japanese Restaurant at the Manila Diamond Hotel until October for the Gindara and Tobiko Food Festival and see the many ways its resident chef can present the popular Gindara and Tobiko. For details, call 526-2211.

In celebration of the Autumn Moon Festival, Mandarin Oriental offers a unique variety of **exquisite mooncakes** until Sept. 22. A 10 percent discount will be offered for a minimum order of six boxes. For inquiries, call 750-8888.

Atbp

The Philippine Indigenous Games and Sports Savers Association will host a series of **Arnis workshop** at selected SM malls in key Luzon cities from September to December. The four-hour workshop will tackle the history and evolution of Arnis with a short film viewing, arnis exhibition and demonstration as well as topics on fitness and health, *buno at mano y mano* hand techniques, traditional arnis sticks and knife techniques, cinematic martial arts, Arnis cardio-workout, sports Arnis and many more. Workshop dates will be announced on Magic 89.9 dwTM and dzSR Radio 918 khz "Larong Pinoy" every Tuesday, 6-8 p.m. For registration, call 524-2997 or 0918-5797641 or visit PIGSSAI at Room 508, Dept. of Tourism Building, TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

The Philippine Baranggay Folk Dance Troupe will perform at the Puerto Real Gardens in Intramuros

Auditions for the Repertory Philippines' production of "A Christmas Carol—Scrooge, The Musical" will be held on Sept. 8 at the William J. Shaw Theatre, Shangri-La Plaza at 5 p.m. The audition is open to all professional and amateur actors, six years old and up. Interested parties must bring their resumés and 1x1 photos, and sing a song from the musical. Piano pieces are available at the REP box office. For inquiries, call 633-4822 to 25.

Floral Arts and Crafts Design Center presents **Floral Fusion**, a two-day event featuring Floral Rhapsody and the Rachy Z. Cuna Cup to be held respectively on Sept. 14 and 15 at Skyline, mezzanine floor of the World Trade Center, Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasay City. Floral Rhapsody will showcase the latest on designs and techniques in flower arrangement. The Rachy Z. Cuna Cup will honor florists in professional and amateur categories. Limited slots available. For registration, call Letty de Castro at 725-8986, 722-8644; Beth Lopez at 724-6757; Melanie or Cynthia at 893-9807, or Ofelia at 526-1367.

Israeli director, stage and film actor and Reiki master Gil Alon will conduct a **seminar on Buddhism creativity and meditation** for theater groups on Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the CCP Conference Room. Alon will teach various types of dynamic and quiet meditation techniques joined with various theater exercises involving music, movement, expression, emotion and words. Interested parties may contact the CCP Dramatic Arts Division at 832-1125 loc. 1606.

Victor Skladnev, a physicist and managing director of Polartechnics in Australia, is visiting Manila from Sept. 2-4 to introduce **TruScreen**, the latest innovation in cervical cancer screening for women. Skladnev will meet with scientists, heads of leading hospitals, clinics and schools, and government officials to persent TruScreen which is able to detect precancer and cancer of the cervix in real time with a high level of accuracy.

New titles from the Cavite's Studies Center

A **Basic Photography seminar** by the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc. will start on Sept. 9 at the Yslas Restaurante, Fort Santiago, Manila and will run for four consecutive Sundays. The course details step-by-step procedure in taking good pictures including technology, composition and lighting basics. For details, call 813-7420 or 843-5341.

Radiance: Weddings & Debuts Beyond Imagination, a bridal and debutante fair at the Holiday Inn Manila featuring elegant gowns, floral arrangements, cakes, photography and souvenir items by expert wedding and debut suppliers and event organizers. There will also be booths featuring wedding customs, paraphernalia and traditions on display courtesy of participating embassies. For details, call 526-1212 ext. 2404.

Intro to Poetry Writing, a workshop on metrical and free verse writing, Sept. 14 at the Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo, Quezon City. For details, call 285-2449.

Wedding Celebrations 2002, a bridal fair at Edsa Shangri-La, Manila showcasing the latest trends in gowns and suits, jewelry, accessories, wedding cakes, floral arrangements, invitations and stationery, souvenirs as well as furnishing and decor to adorn the newlyweds' home, Sept. 1 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The **Ink & Stone Bookshop** at The Podium in Ortigas Center will launch its indoor activities at its loft area on Sept. 14 with free trial sessions on Pilates, Yoga, Meditation, Bead and Fountain making workshop, reading activities and workshops on entrepreneurial endeavors. For a detailed schedule of activities, call 637-8221.

Intramuros *Ngayon*, an on-the-spot photo contest on Intramuros to be held on Sept. 14. The contest is open to college-level students of any university or college in the country, whether residents of Manila or transients. Photos must be taken only on Sept. 14. Eligible subjects include the architecture, landscape, infrastructure, gardens, historical sites, residents, lifestyles, trades and events occurring and found inside the Intramuros walls. For details, call 843-5341.

Adarna House launches 22 new titles, and offers huge discounts and freebies in the ongoing Philippine Book Fair at the Megatrade Hall, 5/L, SM Megamall until Sept. 8. The launch will be on Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m. at Function Room B with a storytelling festival featuring Alitaptap, a professional group of storytellers.

X-manila

Diners and guests can savor the refreshment of good old *tuba* with their favorite breakfast fares at the Fishing Village at Island Cove Resort and Leisure Park in Kawit, Cavite. Chilled **homemade *tuba*** is served in bamboo pitchers and matching *buho* glass holders to add traditional color to the drink. For details, call 810-3718 or 810-3732.

In celebration of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas' 25th anniversary, the Cavite Studies Center takes the frontline in promoting **Cavite history and culture** through the launching of the books "Saloobin: Sagot ni Aguinaldo sa mga Paratang ng Dakilang Lumpo," "Cavite en Siglo 19: Translation of Selected 19th Century Documents," and "Cavite Cultura e Historia: Papers Presented in the Third Annual Seminar on Cavite History and Culture."

For this week's bands and schedules call:

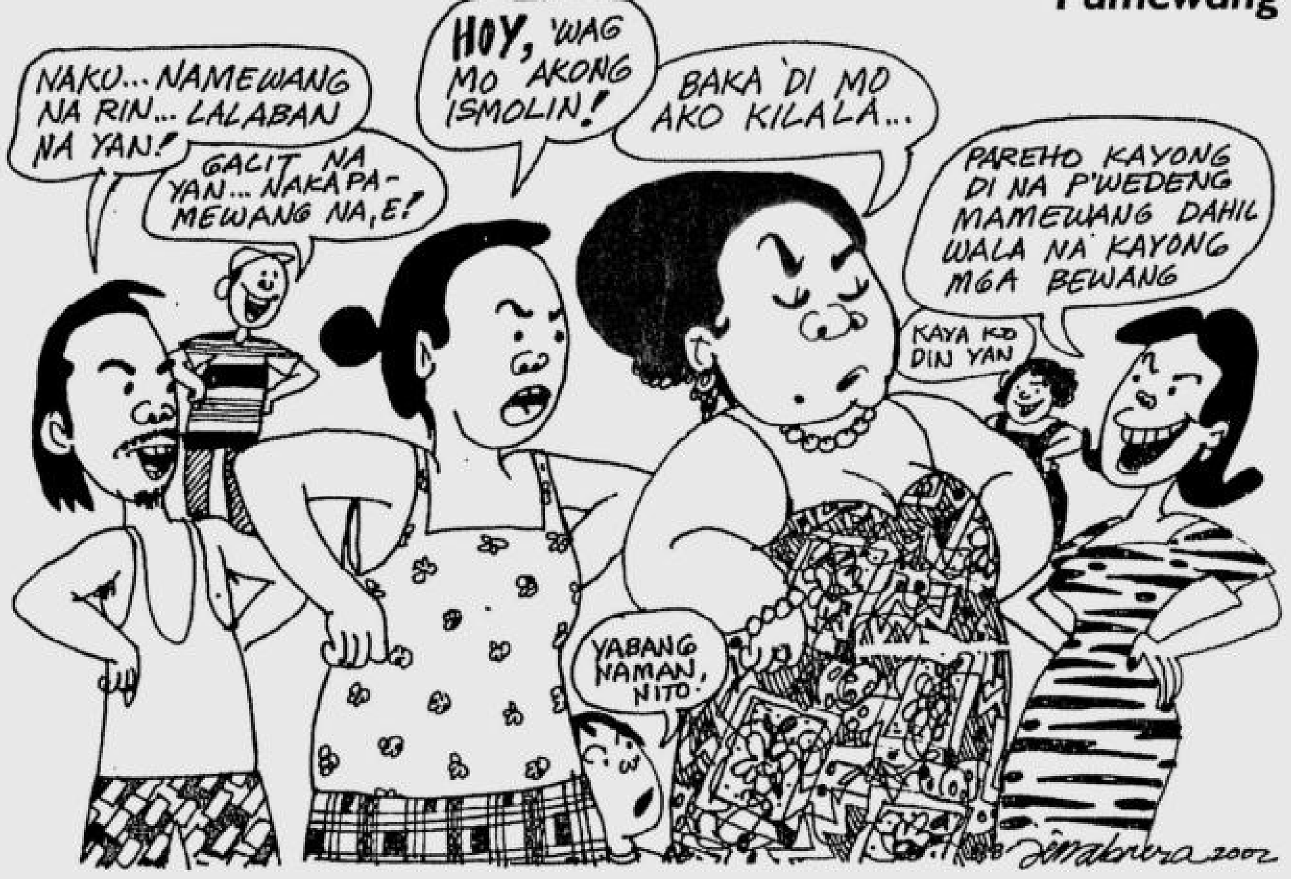
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

Pinoy Nga!

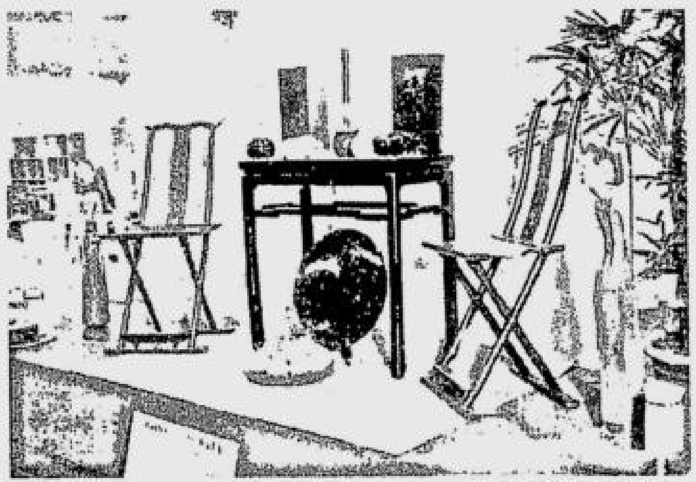
By Jess Abrera

Pamewang


NAKU... NAMEWANG NA RIN... LALABAN NA YAN!
GALIT NA YAN... NAKAPAMEWANG NA, E!
HOY, 'WAG MO AKONG ISMOLIN!
BAKA 'DI MO AKO KILALA...
PAREHO KAYONG DI NA P'WEDENG MAMEWANG DAHIL WALA NA KAYONG MGA BEWANG
KAYA KO DIN YAN
YABANG NAMAN NITO.
jessabrera 2002

Home Trends

Ayala Center invited five of the country's top architects and interior designers—Tina Periquet, Johnny Hubilla, J. Antonio Mendoza, Jonathan Matti, Bernie Miranda—to conjure up their vision of trends in home interiors come 2003, employing pieces from the Ayala Center Home Stores. Periquet sees a very strong presence of Asian art, furniture and home accessories in the modern home. The five designers' disparate visual statements are on exhibit at the Homezone Lobby, 3/L, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center until Sept. 7. Homezone is a neighborhood of 15 stores that specialize in home interiors and accessories.



An exhibit by Johnny Hubilla at Glorietta's Homezone

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Dental Assistant
Diesel Mechanic
Dressmaking/Pattern-Cutting & Design
Effective English
Electric Motor Repairman
Electronic Instrumentation & Control
Electronic Service Technician
Electronics Engineering
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Electronics Technology
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Industrial Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

SMART MMS

Defines The True Meaning of the Multimedia Messaging Service Experience

MMS (Multimedia Messaging Service) is the buzzword of the moment. Yet, as is the nature of buzzwords, the meaning of the word - or, in this case, term - is sometimes lost in the buzz.

With the rollout of SMART MMS, SMART is now defining the true MMS experience - and how it can literally change the lives of SMART subscribers.

What is SMART MMS?

SMART MMS is a service available to SMART subscribers that allows them to send messages that combine text, sounds and images on SMART MMS-enabled celfones. SMART MMS is made possible through the use of SMART GPRS (General Packet Radio Service), a GSM technology which affords sending large packets of data over the air; and SMART MMS-enabled celfones, such as the Nokia 7650 and the Ericsson T68i.

What does SMART MMS mean for the subscriber?

SMART MMS is now leading the way in offering superior multimedia messaging services to its subscribers. Already, these are the things you can do with SMART MMS:

Avoid traffic. With ***SMART MMS Traffic Shot***, subscribers can download digital snapshots of key traffic chokepoints in Metro Manila right into their SMART celfones. You then can enjoy the advantage of designing a traffic-free route, before you even hit the streets. **SMART MMS Traffic Shot** gives you digital snapshots from up to 20 strategic points across Metro Manila, all at the convenience of your own celfone! Using your SMART MMS-enabled celfone, you can quickly access **SMART MMS Traffic Shot** in just a few clicks. If you're in a rush to make it to a luncheon in the area of Ayala Avenue and Buendia, you can check how clogged the lanes might be by keying in MTRAF < > and sending to 311. To learn more about how to use SMART's new traffic-awareness service through your MMS-ready SMART GSM celfone, key in MTRAF HELP and send to 311.

Capture life's beauty on your phone. You can travel abroad and send pictures back home for friends to see in a flash. Whether it's a nature trek or a mountain hike, **SMART Real Pix** allows you to grab hold of life's beauty and share it with those close to you in a way never before possible. Forwarding good wishes, with the ease of a camera in the package of a celfone. With **SMART Real Pix**, the simple joys of being with friends or having a meal with family can be imparted to those people who can't be with us.

Hear better quality ringtones. SMART MMS introduces **SMART MMS Poly Tones** - polyphonic ringtones that are as close to the real music or song as you've ever heard. From now on, you'll listen to the truth. Get calls that sound as true as they can get with Polyphonic tones on SMART MMS. And only SMART can bring you the latest and hottest music. Choose from SMART's wide array of text tunes or download the hottest tracks from the movies via the SMART Cinema Club. Key in POLYTONES and send to 211 for further details on what hot ringtones are available for download today.

Saying it with feeling. More than just e-cards, **SMART MMS Card Toons** gives you animated images in full color to go with your message. And only SMART gives you the widest array of cards to choose from. Choose from occasion-specific to general, or even have your favorite Celebrity Pal grace your greetings. This is the latest and most entertaining way to greet a loved one, all through the mobile convenience of SMART celfones. Want Rufa Mae Quinto to congratulate your officemate on his recent promotion? How about having Joyce Jimenez greet your brother on his birthday? With **SMART Card Toons**, all these are possible! Just key in CARDTOONS and send to 211 for details on what images are available and which SMART Celebrity Pals can liven up your greeting.

Full audio and video animation on your phone. Larger than life characters now move your world on the small screen through **SMART Fun Pix**! Watch as The Rock from "The Scorpion King" lays the smack down on ancient Egyptian scum. Be amazed as Steve, Mark, Big Bert, Little John, and Jamie volt in to from Voltes V. Swing to the funky grooves of Austin Powers and Foxxy Cleopatra from "Austin Powers in Goldmember". Imagine seeing the hottest anime from the SMART Anime Club as well as the biggest stars from the blockbusters of the SMART Cinema Club moving and shaking as animated screensavers all on your celfone. Simply key in FUN PIX and send to 211 for the different keywords and access numbers to gain access to images and animated screensavers that are ready for you to download today.

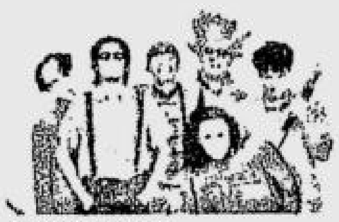
In the end, all of these new SMART MMS services mean one thing for the subscriber: SMART continues to improve and innovate to give the highest quality services and applications that can improve the Filipino's mobile communications experience. Always at your service, simply amazing.

Unlikely Cast Star in SMART Buddy PureTxT 100's New TV Commercial

MEET PAROKYA & BRAD!

SMART Buddy Brad Turvy

An unexpected cast makes up the **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100** TV commercial. Sure, the 30-second spot features the requisite romantic lead in the half-Chinese, one-fourth Australian and one-fourth Scottish commercial model Brad "Buddy" Turvey. But then joining him are...guess who...none other than the only-sometimes-serious rock stars Parokya Ni Edgar, featuring Chito and Vinci on vocals, Darius and Gab on guitars, Buwi on bass, and Dindin on drums!



Parokya ni Edgar

Wow! Pretty interesting combination, right? Read on...

How did they find the experience of doing the commercial?

"I still don't know what got into their heads when they chose us for the commercial," says Chito, with a smile.

(He said exactly the same thing to a packed Matina Town Square crowd during their recent Davao concert launching **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100**, and the fans just broke into laughter.)

"This certainly wasn't in our plans," reveals Vinci. "First of all, we have no plans - we take things as they come!

But the job was certainly easier, Vinci explains, since the band believes in the product they are endorsing. And they all agree that it certainly was a lot of fun doing the commercial.

Buddy
PureTxT
100

Parokya ni Edgar launch SMART Buddy Pure Txt 100 in Davao

Brad, who in the ad also played the foil for the Parokya brand of comedy, agrees:

"Parokya Ni Edgar is crazy, and they are so easy to work with - it was a whole lotta fun," he says.

There is an obvious comic chemistry between Parokya and Brad - as the commercial shows. Any chance that the model just might actually do a Mark McGrath (Sugar Ray lead singer) and take the mic, singing with Parokya?

Brad is uncomfortable with the thought, and admits that, nope, he can't sing.

Now how about Parokya singing with SMART Man Martin Nievera?

"*Oo ba!*" says Vinci. "He's crazier than we are - that'd be fun!" While using **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100**, subscribers can still enjoy the full range of SMART text-based services, such as SMART zed and SMART Money. Talking about SMART zed - and the cool ringtones that are available for downloading there - what tones are ringing on their celfones right now?

Apparently a ringtone fan, Brad rattles off a jukebox list, made up mostly of movie themes and pop songs.

Now as expected, Parokya come up with THE unexpected. Chito says he's got Rico J. Puno's Macho Guapito as his tone. Vinci meanwhile says he's got fellow-funnyman Adam Sandler's Grow Old with You, from the soundtrack of The Wedding Singer.

*And what do they think of **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100**, the breakthrough text-only feature that allows SMART Buddy subscribers to keep connected via text with a P100 load of the **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100** card (which comes pre-credited with 10 FREE text messages)?*

Brad agrees it's a really handy option to have, especially when times are tough and one needs to budget.

Chito meanwhile says that the **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100** service is just right for him and others who are, in his words, "*hindi ma-tawag.*" The service allows him to keep texting away to all his buddies - even his new SMART "Buddy," Brad! - at a price that's easy on the pocket.

He is also convinced that other celfone users will feel the same way:

"*Ang galing nga e! Kung meron ka ng pera o kapag gusto mo ng tawag,* just load a P300 regular SMART Buddy prepaid card and *pwede ka nang tumawag at tumaggap ng tawag! Ang dali 'di ba?*"

SMART Buddy prepaid subscribers can now spend SMARTer, with the SMART option that's right on the budget - **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100**, the only service that allows you to switch to a text-only mode for a price of only P100.

*To get back to the regular SMART Buddy GSM service with voice call features, subscribers on **SMART Buddy PureTxT 100** just have to load a P300 SMART Buddy prepaid card.*

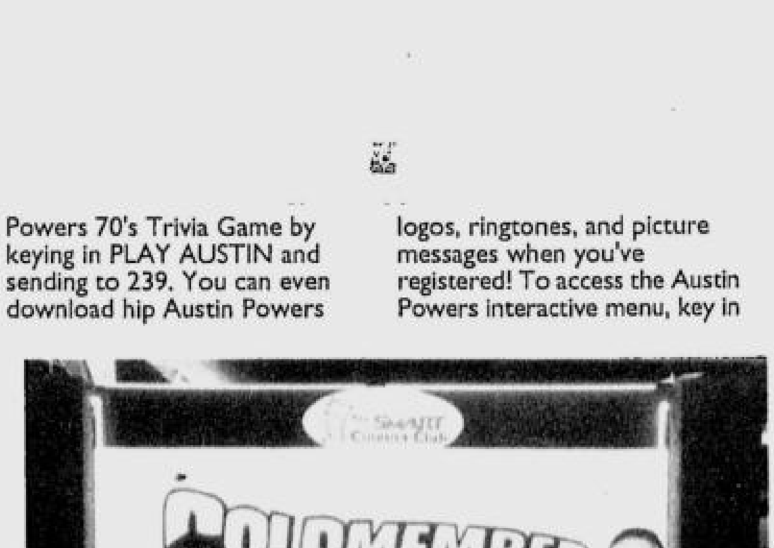
SMART Buddy PureTxT 100 - simply amazing and solely from SMART!

The spy. A mysterious individual who works behind shadows, perpetually shrouded in mystery. Spies are often depicted as having hi-tech gadgets and as masters in the use of weapons and hand-to-hand combat. Even movies and TV shows have helped sow this image of the spy. That is until Austin Powers came along!

SMART and Pioneer Films, in cooperation with service content provider Information Gateway, recently sponsored the premiere of the latest chapter in the adventures of everyone's favorite international man of mystery - "Austin Powers in Goldmember"! At the premiere, held recently at the SM Megamall, lucky SMART Cinema Club members got to see a sneak peek into this latest comedy starring Mike Myers, Beyoncé Knowles (of Destiny's Child), and the great Michael Caine (who plays Austin's swinging dad, Nigel Powers).

When moviegoers trooped to the cinema, they were able to have their pictures taken with the "Goldmember" backdrop as a souvenir of the event. Polaroid shots were taken and given away free to SMART subscribers who attended.

Register with the SMART Cinema Club by simply keying in JOIN CINEMA and sending to 239 to receive updates on SMART's latest movie hits. All registered SMART Cinema Club members can play the Austin Powers 70's Trivia Game by keying in PLAY AUSTIN and sending to 239. You can even download hip Austin Powers logos, ringtones, and picture messages when you've registered! To access the Austin Powers interactive menu, key in AUSTIN and send to 239.



SMART Cinema Club members who join the Austin Powers 70's trivia game will have the chance to win one of three Nokia 7650s given away weekly for the entire promo lasting until September 23, 2002. Every correct answer earns players 30 raffle points. The three players with the most raffle points for the week will win one of the three brand new Nokia 7650 celfones with a Smart Buddy 64K Super SIM. The SMART 64K Super SIM combines the mobile e-commerce applications of SMART Money with the widest range of mobile entertainment and services offered by SMART zed, all in just one SIM!

"Austin Powers in Goldmember" is just the latest in a long line of hot movies from the SMART Cinema Club, including "Spider-Man", "Men In Black II", and "Zoolander". SMART Cinema Club will continue to bring even bigger and better blockbusters to the big screen in the future.

So join the SMART Cinema Club now and let the swinging continue!

ADVT.